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Albert Bitici

Relay raises $195k for cancer research

By Thomas C. Drescher
Managing Editor

Event organizers and participants at Middlebury's third annual Relay for Life last weekend helped raise almost $200,000 to support the fight against cancer. The all-night event — celebrated as a success for the third straight year — is part of a nationwide fundraising campaign directed by the American Cancer Society. It was held from 3 p.m. on Friday to 9:30 on Saturday morning.

Two years ago, Middlebury's first-ever Relay for Life garnered upwards of $80,000, and a second Relay in 2005 more than doubled that figure, pulling in $177,000. Last year's success prompted organizers to set a $200,000 cumulative fundraising target.

"Relay has raised over $195,000 so far, and the money is still coming in," said Relay for Life 2006 Co-Chair Whitney Thomas '07.

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Campus sees spike in theft

By Scott Greene
News Editor

The end of April brought a rise in theft at Middlebury College, with eight reported incidents from April 17 through April 25. The eight thefts make up one third of the total reported thefts on campus since the beginning of 2006.

Seven of the eight incidents involved the disappearance of backpacks or other valuables from Ross and Proctor Dining Halls, with one theft occurring at McCullough Student Center. This phenomenon is not unprecedented at the College.

"We do have periods of time when there are thefts specifically from the dining places," Assistant Director of Administration for Public Safety Melody Perkins said. "But we do have peak times for these thefts, and we're in one of those now."

Thefts have left students without coursework or thesis work, as well as iPods, Palm Pilots, cell phones, room keys and car keys. Though the illegal activities have primarily occurred around the two dining halls, Public Safety hasn't yet pinpointed a definite trend.

"Unfortunately it runs the same type of pattern," Perkins explained, "which is random enough for us not to be able to see any suspicious behavior occurring at certain times of day."

When a student reports a stolen item, Public Safety writes an incident report documenting the missing property. Students are asked to recall the contents of missing bags or backpacks, except in cases in which the thief searches through a bag and takes a wallet or other items. Public Safety then sends the incident report to the Risk Management Office, as well as to the Dining Hall Director.

"Investigation involves an officer going to the dining facility where the theft occurred," Perkins said, "and those are when they're reported to us within a reasonable amount of time." At the scene, Public Safety asks both the dining hall staff and students if they had seen any suspicious activity.

"We also go to the extent of going through the entire complex to see if somebody ditched the bag after taking what they wanted out of it," she noted.

Oftentimes this is just a formality. Of the eight thefts, only three bags have been recovered. All three were taken from Proctor Dining Hall on April 17. However, the locations of recovery have not allowed Public Safety to establish any type of pattern. One

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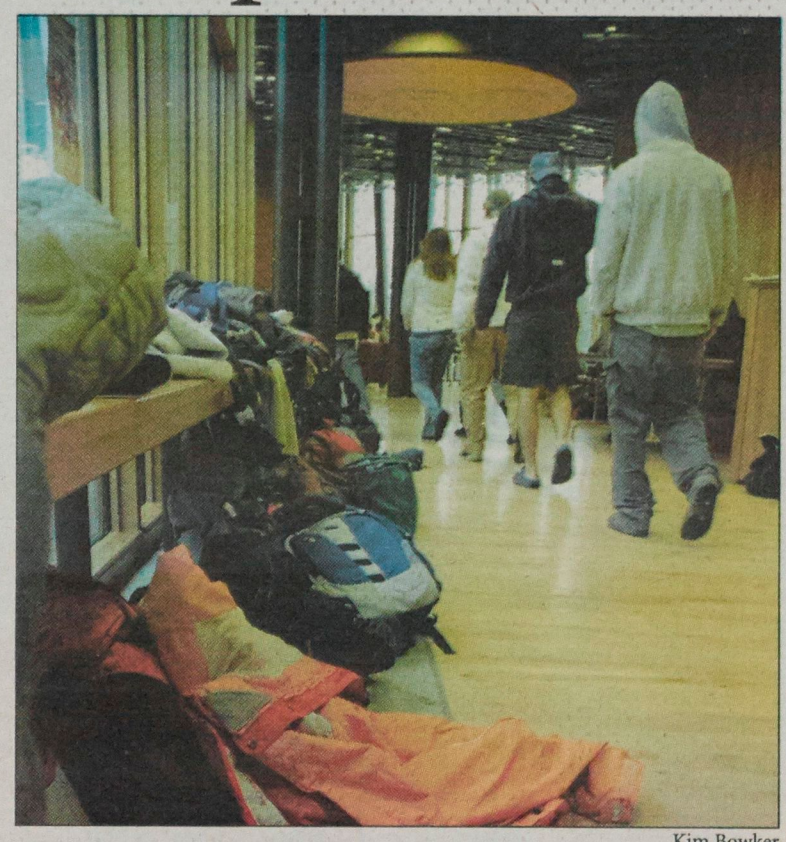

Kim Bowker

Students abandon their bags and jackets in Atwater Dining Hall, despite a recent increase in on-campus theft.

J5 Jams

Albert Bitici

Rocking out on Saturday in Kenyon Arena, Jurassic 5 — preceded by Rahzel and Naughty by Nature — starred in one of the largest spring concerts in Middlebury's recent history.

College ensures Darfur divestment

By Polly Johnson
News Editor

Recognizing the need for Middlebury to take a stance against the genocide that is taking place in the Darfur region of Sudan, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz informed the community of the College's position on divestment in companies with direct ties to Sudan in an all-school e-mail on April 26. The e-mail stated, "The College decided to support the divesting of investments in companies whose business activities can be shown to support the Sudanese government and its policies in Darfur," noting that the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees, with the assistance of College staff and its external investment consultant, confirmed that the College does not currently have direct investments in any companies that hold any ties to the Sudanese government. He added that Middlebury will prohibit any future direct investment in those multinational companies.

The Darfur issue has become an international cause, attracting the attention and support of college students, activists and celebrities throughout the nation. According to an April 25 *New York Times* article, universities including the University of California system, Harvard, Yale, Stanford and Brown have eliminated assets in companies doing business in Sudan as a result of pressure from student campaigns, protests, petitions and demonstrations. Divestment campaigns are underway at other universities and colleges across the nation. While at this stage, students and administrators agree that divestment is largely symbolic, the overall hope is that stock values of companies with ties to the Sudanese government will fall, forcing those companies to reassess their business ties to Sudan.

This past Sunday, thousands of citizens, lawmakers and celebrities marched in Washington D.C., urging the Bush administration to end the genocide and violence in Darfur. Senator Barack

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MIDDBRIEFS

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

SGA releases vote count for recent SGA election

In an e-mail to the student body on Tuesday, the Student Government Association (SGA) announced the long-awaited results of the 2006 SGA Presidential and Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) elections. The e-mail explained that the results were being publicized in order to "improve transparency and student involvement in the election process." The e-mail followed a week and a half of debate in the wake of the April 21 election, which included a last-minute "third party" campaign launched by Austen Levin-Coon '07.5 via e-mail encouraging students to abstain from voting and insist on transparency.

Last week, current SGA President Eli Berman '07.5 expressed reservations about publicly disclosing the election results, voicing concerns that the potential disparity in the number of votes could be embarrassing to candidates. In continuing the debate over transparency, the SGA discussed publicizing the votes during their meeting on Sunday at Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson's home.

According to the e-mail distributed by the SGA on Tuesday, Alex Stanton '07 won the presidential race with a total of 965 votes, taking 59.9 percent of the electoral vote. Alina Levina '09 received 399 votes, and 248 students chose to abstain. In the SCCOCC race, Annie Williams '07 received 774 votes, Mike Tierney '09.5 received 271 votes and Ryan Tauriainen received 15 percent of the vote with 241 votes. In the SCCOCC race, 320 students chose to abstain.

Econ. panel discusses outsourcing pros, cons

Gathering yesterday in John M. McCardell, Jr. Bicentennial Hall, three business professionals participated in a panel discussion tackling the challenges and potential benefits of increasingly common global outsourcing. The event was part of the Professor David K. Smith Visiting Economic Lecture series. Panelists included Scott Hardy, Nick Laird and Michael Zeliger, and the forum was moderated by Pieter Schiller '60, a partner emeritus at Advanced Technology Partners in Waltham, Mass.

Hardy, founder of the NEOS Performance Overshoe, Laird, founder and chief executive officer of Global Realty Outsourcing and Zeliger, a partner at the law firm Kirkpatrick and Lockhart Nicholson Graham, were challenged during the forum to evaluate the changing face of American business in the face of outsourcing practices. The panelists discussed and debated whether or not outsourcing creates more jobs than it moves offshore, whether or not outsourcing jobs means "outsourcing America" and how outsourcing may limit the United States' ability to compete on a global playing field.

The event, which was free and open to the public, was followed by a reception in Bicentennial Hall.

Faculty engage research with indigenous people

Convening tonight at 7 p.m. in the Robert A. Jones '59 Conference Room, faculty panelists will talk discuss their work with indigenous peoples. The panel, titled "Learning with the People of the Land: Faculty Perspectives on Working with Indigenous Peoples," will feature Associate Professor of Anthropology David Stoll, Assistant Professor of Music and Curator of the Ethnomusicology Archives Jennifer Post, Associate Professor of History William Hart, New England Consortium Fellow Richard Meyers and Director and Psychologist of the Human Relations Center and Associate Professor of English Gary Margolis.

The event is being sponsored by the Office of Institutional Diversity and Voices of Indigenous People. Professors will address how their work with indigenous cultures has influenced their profession and research, how research contends with indigenous people and the implications associated with doing research with indigenous people.

CORRECTIONS

The Middlebury Campus would like to acknowledge photographer Adam Gavalla for his photographs of the recent Monterey Institute for International Studies inauguration of new president Clara Yu. Gavalla's photographs ran last week in the April 27 issue of *The Campus* with the article "Inside the affiliation: Monterey's new Yu."

Sternberg passes away at 60

By Jason F. Siegel
Focus Editor

A beloved member of the Middlebury community was lost on April 29, when Catering Manager Charles "Chaz" Sternberg passed away in his home after a long illness. He was 60 years old.

A dynamic, exuberant presence on campus, Sternberg immersed himself in everything he did, from catering small dinners at the President's House to coordinating the Bicentennial Meal. He served on the Staff Council for a number of years, and according to President Emeritus John M. McCardell, Jr., did so with the College's interests ahead of his own.

Friends were quick to share their fond memories of the positive impact that Sternberg had on their lives and on the campus. Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette commented upon all the extra work that Sternberg put into making the College's Bicentennial as special an occasion as possible, from working with a trustee to get Middlebury labels on wine and Otter Creek Ale served at catered functions to involving friends from all over the state that he had made when he worked as a chef and restaurateur in the Stowe and Burlington areas. Biette said that his death had caused "a flat spot on the wheel" of the dining staff.

McCardell, who spent a great deal of time with Sternberg due to Catering's involvement in many presidential receptions, said, "Chaz knew — and loved — food and drink and also people… He truly cared, and his caring showed. He was never too tired, too busy or too preoccupied to give his best effort to the task at hand. The results glistened."

Bonnie McCardell added that he was always up for a challenge, no matter what the size. "He never let the job become 'routine,'" she said. "Chaz had a passion that was contagious and you could feel the energy that he created among all those he came in contact with."

Courtesy

Sternberg, photographed with Commons Dining Room Manager Kit Quesnel, passed away on Friday at his home in Burlington.

Shelley Glassner, director of College Advancement administration, echoed those statements. "Chaz was a valued and trusted colleague who made the seemingly impossible ideas become possible. His creativity, unbounded enthusiasm and verve served the College for many years."

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz spoke to Sternberg's seeming omnipresence at events. "For many who attended functions at Middlebury, Chaz Sternberg really was the face of the College. He loved food and all of the fun that comes with it, but meeting people and getting to know them was certainly his favorite part of the job."

According to Director of Human Resources Drew Macan, who served on the Continuing Education Committee with Sternberg, "Chaz was passionate about everything he did — including his support of colleagues who wanted to continue their education and further their careers."

Students were often unaware of his influence on their lives, but he was responsible for bringing such items as the chocolate fountain to the campus, always a popular fixture when it appears at catered events. This was just one small way that Sternberg sought to spread the joy in his own life to those around him.

A memorial service in his memory will take place on Saturday, May 6, at 4:30 p.m. in Mead Memorial Chapel.

Press pries into assault cases

Accused student reported to have withdrawn from College

By Caroline S. Stauffer
Editor in Chief

The Champlain Channel Five Reporter Ben Stein was on campus Friday asking students questions about the ongoing investigation into two alleged sexual assaults that reportedly took place in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 1.

"Students in the area of Ridgeline Parking Lot were concerned and didn't want to have to deal with the press," Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah said. "Any time any non-community member comes onto campus and bothers people we'll go and look into it and determine if they should be there."

She also said that the reporter was directed to the Public Affairs Office.

Articles appeared in *The Burlington Free Press* and on the WCAX-TV (Channel 3 News) Web site on Saturday, April 24. Both accounts noted that the student accused of raping two Middlebury women had withdrawn from the College. *The Free Press* coverage included a statement from President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz as released by Vice President for Communication Mike McKenna.

"On hearing reports of unacceptable and potentially unlawful behavior at a social house party, the College launched an immediate and intensive investigation, which is ongoing,," Lieboitz's statement reads. "Disciplinary proceedings had been initiated for suspected violations of College standards of conduct by a student who has since withdrawn from the College."

Dean of Student Affairs Tim Spears would not say whether the student had withdrawn of his own accord or as a result of a College judicial hearing, citing the need for confidentiality in such matters.

Delta House members said that the reporter knocked on the door of Prescott House, where the sexual assaults allegedly took place, hoping to interview students on Friday. The House has collectively adopted a policy of not speaking to the media about the ongoing investigations, and alerted Public Safety of the reporter's presence.

Reports of the two incidents of sexual assault first appeared in the College's Public Safety log in the April 13 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*.

A Middlebury Police Department investigation led by Patrol Officer Vegar Boe is looking into the incident, including the role "ADHD-type drugs" may have played.

CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR ASSAULT VICTIMS

Three Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) are on-call at Parton Health Center 24 hours a day. The Center for Counseling and Human Relations provides individual short-term and crisis counseling, and commons deans and the Dean of Student Affairs Office provide another forum in which students can seek help without being required to file a formal assault complaint. WomenSafe, a community resource, provides support and counseling around the clock.

COLLEGE SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY

Students are free to decide whether or not to file an official complaint with the College. Should a student choose to file charges through the College's judicial system, the judicial hearing process will follow the procedures outlined in the College Handbook. Proceedings are designed to avoid intimidation of the accuser while protecting the rights of the accused.

THE CLERY ACT

The Jeanne Cleary Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires that colleges and universities in the United States release information regarding crime on and around their campuses. Schools must publish annual reports disclosing security policies and crime statistics. Colleges are also required to maintain public crime logs and make timely warnings to the community about crimes that pose an ongoing threat to students and employees.

Guttentag, Nash garner praise

By Kathryn Flagg
News Editor

At a ceremony held last Wednesday in the Ross Fireplace Lounge, students, faculty and staff gathered to recognize the outstanding achievements of Middlebury College employees. With an unprecedented crowd on hand to congratulate recipients, President of the Student Government Association (SGA) Eli Berman '07.5 announced that Associate Dean of Student Affairs Karen Guttentag had been named the winner of the 2006 Rodney and Beverly DeGray Staff Appreciation Award and Associate Professor of American Literature and Civilization and Faculty Head for Wonnacott Commons Will Nash was awarded the 2006 Marjorie Lamberti Faculty Appreciation Award.

Selections for this year's annual award ceremony were culled from approximately 55 nominations. The recipient of the staff award was ultimately chosen by the SGA Senate, while a special committee selected by the SGA reviewed faculty nominations. This year's award ceremony marked the 10th and 11th anniversaries of the Marjorie Lamberti Faculty Appreciation Award and the Rodney and Beverly DeGray Staff Appreciation Award, respectively. Both awards were created and continue to be administered by the SGA.

The event was overwhelmingly well attended. "We just packed people in," said Berman. Due to space constaints, people were even turned away at the door.

"It was a really great event," said Berman. "We made people feel proud to be part of the Middlebury College community." He stressed that he had never before seen faculty, staff and students interact together in such a way. As a result of the event, Berman said he has heard several requests for increased programming for faculty, staff and students.

Guttentag, who has worked at Middlebury for five years, is perhaps best known by students for her work with orientation for students matriculating in both September and February. She has also worked extensively to "grow the roots" of the recently inaugurated Deliberative Dialogues program, which strives to foster a wider breadth of communication within the College community.

Guttentag expressed a passion for projects at the College related to community building, a passion that includes affirming diversity "in all of its forms," as well as an interest in creating more spaces on campus for learning outside of the classroom.

"I find that I'm most proud when I've been able to create and support opportunities for students to be leaders in important areas," said Guttentag. "Mostly, though, I'm really fulfilled by the relationships I have with individual students, and watching them bloom, overcome challenges, test themselves and mature into these incredible people."

Vlad Lodoaba

An enthusiastic Guttentag accepts the 2006 Rodney and Beverly DeGray Staff Appreciation Award at last Wednesday's ceremony.

Senior Co-Chair for February Orientation Devin Wardell '06.5, who worked extensively with Guttentag, had nothing but good things to say about her work. "On a large group level," wrote Wardell in a nomination for the award, "Karen developed bonds with many incoming freshmen Febs, by knowing their names even before they arrived and by encouraging everyone with her smiles and infectious enthusiasm."

Wardell continued, "On a personal note, Karen has become not just a supervising staff member but also a friend to me. She is intelligent, hardworking and inspirational. I cannot think of anyone who would be a more worthy recipient of this award."

Said Sophomore Co-Chair for February Orientation Becca Cobbs '08.5, "The Associate Dean of Student Affairs is a hard job, and she not only does well, but surpasses expectations."

Nash, who has taught as a professor in the department of American Literature and Civilization since 1995, was equally passionate about his experiences at the College. An enthusiast of African-American culture, contemporary fiction by black writers and modern African-American music, Nash teaches courses at the College ranging from African-American literature to in-depth studies of blues and jazz music.

This January, Nash taught a J-Term course that examined the effects of Hurricane Katrina and culminated in a service-learning trip to New Orleans.

"I've had a great many fulfilling experiences teaching at Middlebury," said Nash. "If I were to choose one as the most rewarding, I'd say it was teaching my J-Term course on Hurricane Katrina this year and taking a group of students down to New Orleans to do relief work at the end of the month. That was an especially memorable course both because of the incredible people who were in that course and the type of work that we did together."

Nash and Guttentag expressed their delight following the awards ceremony, and both articulated their pride at being selected from among a long list of talented nominees.

"It's an honor to be associated in this way with Marjorie Lamberti, who throughout her career embodied what great teaching at Middlebury could and should be," said Nash. "And I'm flattered to have been chosen from among the group of fantastic teachers who were nominated. I kept hearing the names of people that I thought really deserve the award, and it was a happy surprise to hear Eli Berman announce that I'd won."

Said Guttentag, "I have to say, this award makes me feel like a total rock star, and like the luckiest person in the world." She continued, "I want to send the entire student body to the Career Services Office to identify the kind of work they'll be good at, and then to find a job that is as fulfilling, enriching and interesting to them as my job is to me."

Vlad Lodoaba

Nash and Guttentag embrace during the Wednesday ceremony in the Ross Fireplace Lounge. Both were honored with appreciation awards.

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY KELLY BLYNN AND LAUREN ARMSTRONG

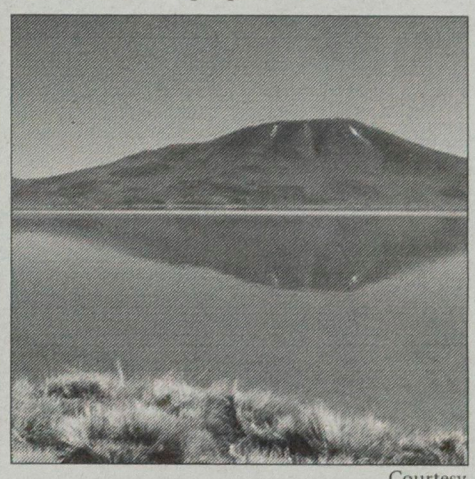
BOLIVIA — Buenos días desde las tierras bajas de Santa Cruz, Bolivia, the land of big American-style supermarkets, oil company executives cruising in their sport utility vehicles, trash-eating street horses, Mennonites, telephone booths that look like zoo animals and many other things that do not seem to fit the stereotype of indigenous, pan flute-playing, llama-filled highland Bolivia.

We're here for about two weeks working on our final project, making a documentary about the explosion of an oil pipeline in a campesino community outside the city named El Salao, and have learned and experienced quite a bit. So far we've played soccer with the oil company reconstruction crew, eaten at least a hundred *mandarinas*, met a mayor named "The Goat," slept on the floor of a psych ward and received various marriage proposals.

We arrived here in Santa Cruz a week ago, with few contacts and zero filmmaking experience, but have managed to sift our way through some of the Bolivian bureaucracy to talk to government officials about the accident. The most powerful part of the project has been spending time in the community talking to the people who were affected, hearing their stories about what some describe as the worst night of their lives. We have yet to make our way past security at the headquarters of Transredes S.A., a subsidiary of Shell and Enron that owns the pipeline and is responsible for the cleanup and compensation of the accident, but we're currently working out some sort of scheme where one of us distracts while the other runs for the door with camera in hand.

As environmental studies students and climate change activists at home, it has been a powerful experience for us to meet the people whose lives have been affected so profoundly by the oil industry and to hopefully find a way to tell their story. Many people in the community lost everything they had ever worked for, their houses and citrus trees and crops, and many others were burnt and left scarred for the rest of their lives. Although we've seen how the company is responding by building new homes for them and fortifying the pipeline, there are many things that money simply can't replace.

Although the situation may seem quite sad from the outside, many of the people we've met amazingly continue to have a very optimistic outlook on life. As Doña Rosa and Doña Felipa, two female organic farmers that lost everything, stated, they have no choice but to *seguir adelante y no tener miedo* (continue ahead and not live in fear) of the duct and of the fire. As for us, we hope to keep working to tell the stories that aren't being told and to keep trying to use more energy sources that don't so severely impact the environment and people's lives.



Courtesy

Middlebury pledges responsible investment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Obama (D-Ill.), actor George Clooney and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel were among the high-profile faces to attend the rally — Clooney had just returned from a visit to Africa and described his experience to the vast crowd.

Since early 2003, violent conflict between Sudanese government forces and rebel groups has been rampant. Government forces and ethnic militia called "Janjaweed" have been engaged in civil warfare with two rebel groups called the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement (SLA/SLM) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). For the past three years, the government has waged a campaign of ethnic cleansing against the civilian population who are members of the same ethnic groups as the rebels.

The Sudanese government and the members of the Janjaweed militias have decimated hundreds of rural villages, killed tens of thousands of people and raped thousands of women and girls. Currently, around 1.8 million Darfurians live in camps in Darfur, and approximately 220,000 have fled into Chad, a neighboring country. The violence has virtually destroyed the local economy and trade in Darfur, leaving 1.5 million people in dire need of food assistance.

The situation has worsened this year, and is threatening to spread into neighboring regions, including Chad, where Sudanese refugees have already fled. More than 400,000 civilians have been killed in the past three years.

In his e-mail, Liebowitz thanked the student-run Sunday Night Group (SNG) "for engaging the College administration on this issue." While the SNG, which formed in January of 2005, is primarily focused on issues of climate change, members have been meeting with Liebowitz since last September regarding socially responsible investment. The issue of Darfur only came to center stage recently when it was established that socially responsible investment, and thus divesting in companies with ties to Sudan, could have a profound effect on the situation in Sudan.

Courtesy

According to SNG member Peter Viola '06, a group of five SNG students met with Liebowitz and the Board of Trustees over Feb break to discuss socially responsible investment.

"After that meeting," Viola noted, "we were unsure of where we stood with the administration. They were supportive, but it was unclear whether or not they would make a decision." Currently, the group is hoping that the Trustees will vote to create the Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investment (ACSRI), which will be voted on when the Trustees meet this weekend.

Phil Aroneanu '06.5, another SNG member, said that he had hoped the ACSRI would have been formed before spring break so it could have begun work on the Darfur divestment campaign earlier. He stressed that "transparency is a key part of the socially responsible investment campaign, because how can we know what is socially responsible unless we can discuss the practices of specific companies?"

The SNG had hoped that Liebowitz would have responded sooner to their request to form the ACSRI, and according to Aroneanu, "we asked Liebowitz a number of times to release a statement on the topic, and he didn't until we made sure he knew we would be publishing an opinions submission about it in *The Campus* that would make him look bad."

A petition was published that received over 840 student signatures. In it, the Socially Responsible Investment Campaign members demanded the following: divestment of College endowment funds from companies supporting the Sudanese government, the creation of the ACSRI, to be comprised of faculty, students and administrators and transparency of our endowment investments in order to hold the College's investors accountable to greater social and environmental responsibility.

Liebowitz's e-mail was a first step in informing students about the College's reaction to the genocide and how divestment is a step in the right direction.

As Aroneanu said, "It was a significant step that Liebowitz made, to bring the issue of Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) into the public spotlight for a moment with his Darfur divestment announcement. We are excited that the campus now has some idea that this campaign is going on and that the issue of SRI exists."

Liebowitz, in the e-mail, praised the active students, writing, "It is an important statement, consistent with our educational mission to encourage Middlebury students who feel passionately about issues — such as this one — to exercise that passion in creative and productive ways."

INSIDE STUDENT GOVERNANCE

SGA debates votes, ban over dinner with dean

By Dan Stevens
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government Association (SGA) held its weekly meeting this past Sunday at a new venue, convening at Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson's house to discuss SGA matters and share dinner. Over the course of the meal, the SGA discussed several important matters including smoking on campus, the Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) and SGA President election results, the 2006-2007 SGA Cabinet and the long-term prospects for the organization.

During dinner, the Senate discussed the proposed soft radius smoking ban.

"The consensus of the Senate was to place signs that said something along the lines of, 'Please keep a respectful distance when smoking' in areas where smoke is particularly bothersome," SGA President-elect Alex Stanton '07 said.

The SGA also discussed the publication of the SGA and SCCOCC election results. After a widespread campaign last week to have the results made public, the SGA agreed that such a result was desirable. The SGA decided to send an e-mail to the student body clarifying the exact results of the elections. They acknowledged that this would improve the transparency of the SGA and help elected students understand more clearly the intentions of the student body.

On Tuesday, the organization publicized the election results in an e-mail to students. Stanton garnered 59.9 percent of the vote in the presidential race, and SCCOCC-elect Annie Williams '07 won with 48 percent of the vote. Abstentions constituted 15.4 percent of the vote in the presidential race and 19.9 percent of the vote in the SCCOCC election.

On Sunday, Stanton also addressed the need for a new SGA Cabinet position. Often times, the SGA forgets about bills they have passed and consequently fails to implement these measures. The new position, Chief of Planning and Implementation, would be in charge of overseeing and completing such measures.

Many members of the SGA also noted the student sentiment about a lack of rehearsal space in the Center for the Arts (CFA). The Senate agreed that this is an issue that must be further investigated, and plans to continue exploring options by meeting with the chair of the Music Department and director of the CFA.

The SGA also assessed the SGA performance for the year and discussed what can be changed to make the organization more cohesive as it looks ahead to the 2006-2007 academic year.

"I think everyone had a good time and it was a relaxing change from the pace of the last few weeks," Alpheus Chan '08 concluded.

Community Council recommends 'soft radius' smoking ban after groups weigh in

By Joseph Bergan
STAFF WRITER

Community Council began the month of May with a decisive meeting dedicated to resolving the issue of the smoking ban on campus. After a short executive session in the beginning of the meeting to discuss Judicial Board nominations, the Council reconvened to discuss the smoking issue that was brought up several months ago by concerned staff members at the College.

The Council began by discussing the removal of "butt's bins," the cigarette bins placed outside the doorways of most campus buildings and dormitories. The cost for removal of the bins would be around $300 — not including labor. When Pete McSherry '06 asked if there was a budget, Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson replied that there was none, but said, "Worst case scenario, we could figure out what we needed and put in a request for next year's cycle."

The attention then turned to SGA Senator Max Nardini '08 and his idea for a "soft radius." He said, "Signs should be put in problem spots, worded in a respectful and cordial manner." His comment was followed by a discussion about where the problem spots actually are. Dean of the College Tim Spears added, "It might be better off going in a more staggered direction — there may be cheaper, more effective options out there".

Hanson brought the issue back to the bins when she asked Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah if there have been many complaints this year specifically about smoking.

"I don't know of any time when we have gone to a building and someone had been smoking in the entryway and someone on the inside was complaining," said Boudah. Additionally, Boudah said that there have not been many incidents of students smoking indoors this year, and noted that people are being more respectful and exiting the building to smoke.

Spears voiced an opinion about "hard" versus "soft," noting that he wants to see other plans implemented in addition to the soft plan. Hanson clarified that, to her, "hard" suggests "do not smoke" while "soft" can be interpreted as "please do not smoke." She then made the suggestion of putting benches outdoors at a reasonable distance away from entryways.

"You could go out in front of your building, sit down, smoke your cigarette and have a place to put it out," said Hanson. Abby Blum '08.5 noted that this might not be the best idea because of how cold temperatures are on campus for most of the year.

As the issue drew to a close, the discussion moved to the enforcement of the principle. Boudah wondered what she would tell her officers if the plan goes into effect. "We aren't talking about enforcement or rules [smokers] would be breaking, so Public Safety would just encourage them," Hanson offered. Hanson added that first the officers would encourage respect and if that did not work, there would be a hard radius. Therefore the Council would prefer to "try and go the educational and people take responsibility route first."

Boudah still had reservations about exactly what the radius entails. "There are dining halls where they designate a door to smoke in, now do they tell them to walk 20 paces? To the right? To the left?" This lightened the mood, especially when Spears suggested a campus-wide contest "about the appropriateness of the language" on the signs.

Hanson noticed a general agreement in the council and moved to a vote. The new motion will read:

1. Community Council recommends that the College smoking policy be modified to include a statement that smoking should not take place in areas where smoke is likely to enter buildings, including in building entranceways, near open windows and especially near building air intakes.

2. Community Council recommends that especially at locations where there currently is a high frequency of smoking, that signs be placed to discourage smoking in the area.

3. Community Council recommends that an annual reminder be sent out to faculty, staff and students about the smoking policy to help educate the community.

With a vote of 15-0-0, Hanson commented that the Council will send the recommendation to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz.

After the meeting, Hanson remarked, "We are trying to encourage a sense of personal responsibility and support for the community. This recommendation means that we are going to ask community members to take responsibility for their own actions and to think of others."

Kelly Brush recuperates in Colo.

By Liz Campbell
Staff Writer

Following a severe spinal cord injury during a ski race in February, sophomore Kelly Brush, a member of the alpine ski team, has been undergoing extensive rehabilitation at Craig Hospital, a rehabilitation center designed specifically for people with spinal cord injuries, in Englewood, Colo. On Feb. 18, Brush sustained severe injuries to her spinal column, a punctured lung and four cracked ribs from a fall during the women's giant slalom race at the Williams College Carnival. While her spinal column had to be aligned during a 10-hour surgery shortly after the accident, she has the use of her arms and feeling at the chest level and above.

After being treated initially at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, Mass., Brush was transferred to Colorado on March 6 for more intensive and specialized rehabilitation. While her expected release date from Craig was originally May 11, she and her family decided to extend their stay until she is fully independent and confident to return home.

Brush and her family made the decision to remain in Colorado following a bout with nausea over the past week due in large part to antibiotics that she is taking to prevent infections. On a Web site designed to keep friends, family and community members informed of Brush's progress, Mary Brush, her mother, wrote, "Kelly is the first to agree that staying here a little longer will allow her to go home better prepared for her immediate future there. Having taken the fast track course in living with spinal cord injury, we have all learned that it is much more than just losing the use of your legs … Eventually this will be second nature for Kelly."

Despite this temporary setback, Brush has made substantial progress since being transferred to Craig Hospital. Moving from the hospital in Pittsfield to Craig has allowed her to focus on developing skills such as dressing herself, swimming on her own, riding in and driving a car and transferring herself from bed to chair and back on her own, all in less than two months. These capabilities will facilitate her transition from the hospital to the real world and will enable her to be independent while still in a wheelchair.

"It seems crazy that such things could be so difficult, and yet daily activities that we take for granted have suddenly become a challenge for Kelly," said her sister Lindsay Brush '07, also a member of the alpine ski team.

Brush has remained active in spite of being mostly confined to a wheelchair. In addition to physical therapy and rehabilitation activities all day, she swims twice a week and plays a game similar to rugby on wheels once a week with other patients in the hospital. "She has been able to get out of the hospital more and more though," Lindsay added. "Her most recent outings include a few Avalanche games, a Rockies game, the zoo, out to dinner for sushi and to a friend's pool for a little relaxing."

Brush has confounded both friends and doctors with her determination to remain positive and active while adapting her lifestyle to her current situation. In an update on her Web site on April 18, her father, Charlie Brush '69 who also skied for Middlebury and later served as both a ski and football coach, wrote, "Kelly seems better every day, although progress comes in small increments. Her ability to focus on the task at hand, whether physical or mental, is more than I can comprehend." Her Web site — http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/kellybrush — has received approximately 30,000 visits, and nearly 800 messages have been posted, all noting her enthusiasm and extraordinary strength throughout her rehabilitation.

A recent event sponsored by the Sherwood Society, which is made up of Middlebury students and organizes two fundraisers each year in order to benefit a local organization or charity, was dedicated to Brush. The event raised $1,676, which was more than the fundraiser made in the fall for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. All proceeds went to the Kelly Brush Foundation, created by Brush and her family to aid athletes who find themselves in a situation similar to Kelly's by giving them the financial means to take care of any other expenses they may encounter.

J.P. Coviello '06, co-head of the Sherwood Society, remarked, "The event went very smoothly and was a tremendous success in our eyes. Everyone donned their finest semi-formal attire and brought their charitable hearts to Mister Up's, enabling us to raise a solid sum for the Kelly Brush Foundation. We were very fortunate for a great turnout last Wednesday and feel fortunate to be able to assist a fellow student with her remarkable initiative."

Brush hopes to leave Colorado and return to Vermont before the first of June. "Her spirits remain very high, and every time I talk to her, she is the same old Kelly I have always known – cheerful and happy!" said Lindsay. "She is determined and she knows what she has to do to get back to where she wants to be in life, whether it be at Midd or at home."

Bags disappear from dining halls

Continued from page 1

bag was recovered in Hepburn Hall, while a second was found in town. A third bag resurfaced in Amherst, Mass.

"It's one thing to find it on a road in Middlebury, or at a party spot in Weybridge," Perkins said, "but to find it in Massachusetts?"

Adam Morgan '08.5 owns the bag that emerged in Amherst. He said that another student found the backpack in the local train station and discovered his Middlebury ID. Though his wallet, calculator and cash were missing, his books and notes remained inside. The theft occurred during visiting students weekend.

"Since there are rarely thefts on normal weekends I attribute it to one of the prospies," Morgan said. He believes that in a majority of the cases, College students are not culpable.

Dean of the College Tim Spears said it is still too early to determine whether this most recent wave of theft is permanent.

"Sometimes we have to finish out the whole year to figure out whether the perceived spikes in thefts or any incident are more apparent than real," he said.

Despite the increased prevalence of theft, the College will not install surveillance cameras anytime soon. Though last year the administration discussed the feasibility of putting cameras outside the dining halls with the Student Government Association, the idea did not receive much positive feedback. In addition, students voiced concerns regarding invasion of privacy.

"In the end the administration felt that having cameras outside would be pretty intrusive and people outside ultimately wouldn't be comfortable with it," Spears recalled. The College does utilize electronic surveillance at the Health Center and the museum inside the Center for the Arts.

Still, having a bag stolen can change one's perspective on the possibility of surveillance. Jennifer Williams '08 lost a bag to theft on Monday, April 24, and understands why students are reluctant to accept what she calls a "violation of their trust."

"But I also understand what if feels like to have your trust violated without warning," she commented, "and the anger that comes from realizing that with security cameras, the theft could have been prevented. Maybe security cameras are not part of Middlebury's culture, but the student body and administration need to realize that Middlebury's culture is changing, and theft is a reality we have to do something about."

In the meantime, Perkins said, the only way to catch a thief is to catch the person with the property, or to have somebody come forward. She encourages anyone with information on a theft to contact Public Safety.

The best way for students to prevent theft, she said, is to drop belongings off at their residence, or simply to not take valuables with them to class.

"I know that's difficult," she recognized, "but that would definitely prevent them from being victims of a crime."

public safety log

APRIL 25, 2006 TO APRIL 30, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
4/25/06	12:00 p.m.	Theft	Cell Phone, Room Key and ID Card	McCullough Student Center	No Suspects
4/25/06	5 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Theft	Lithograph	Emma Willard	Open
4/26/06	11:30 p.m.	Theft	Bag and Personal Items	KDR	Open
4/27/06	7 - 8:30 p.m.	Theft	Messenger Bag and Contents	Ross	No Suspects
4/27/06	6:45 p.m.	Theft	N/A	Ross	No Suspects
4/27/06	5:30 p.m.	Theft	Personal Items	Proctor	No Suspects
4/28/06	5:30 p.m.	Theft	Personal Items	Proctor	No Suspects
4/29/06	12:45 a.m.	Drug Violation	Bong	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
4/29/06	5:43 p.m.	Theft	N/A	Ross	Case Closed
4/30/06	11:35 p.m.	Drug Violation	N/A	Starr	Referred to Commons Dean
4/30/06	11:13 p.m.	Disturbance	Town Complaint	KDR	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
4/30/06	7:45 p.m.	Noise	N/A	KDR	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs

The Department of Public Safety reported 12 alcohol violations this week, including possession of alcohol by minors in Atwater, Hepburn Road, Hadley, outdoors and the Mill. Public Safety also reported an alcohol violation by a non-student in Atwater, three cases of intoxicated persons in Kenyon Arena and one incident of an intoxicated person in the McCullough Student Center. All incidents were reported to commons deans.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY LISIE MEHLMAN

Employers plan to hire more grads

A senior? Still no job? Worry not. The National Association of Colleges and Employers released a report last week whose results reveal that employers expect to hire 14 percent more college graduates this year. These results are based on the polling of employers about their hiring prospects for the Class of 2006. The findings show that 60 percent of the employers polled plan to hire a larger slew of college graduates than they did last year. Luckily for Midd-kids, Northeastern companies boasted the greatest potential increase in hiring, an estimated 24.8 percent. Additionally, 20 percent of those polled reported a planned increase in starting salaries offered to employees. Unfortunately, 90 percent of those polled alluded to the increased competition facing new college graduates.

—The Daily Princetonian

School officials evaluate the role of male colleges

Until the 1960s, there was such a thing as a Yale man, a Dartmouth man and a University of Virginia man, as such institutions were male only. However, the advent of the women's movement led to a questioning of the relevance, fairness, and exclusivity and their reasons for existing. By the decade's end, nearly all these colleges became coeducational.

Today, only four all-male institutions exist that are not categorized as seminaries or share classes with women's colleges.

In recent years the public discourse regarding education has shifted from underperforming women to underperforming men, from how schools fail to support girls to how they fail to support boys. Nationwide, colleges that were not too long ago predominantly male are not boasting classes comprised of 57 percent females. These trends cause us to rethink the importance of the male-only higher academic institution.

Walter E. Massey, President of Morehouse, explained that "We've learned that there are differences in the ways that boys and girls learn and there can be some advantages in having boys and girls in separate learning environments. It may not be for everyone, but for a large segment of the population, a single-sex environment can be more productive and more fulfilling, and that's not just true for women." He also noted that men can learn better and focus more when they're not vying for the attention of the young woman in the halter top in the next seat.

— The New York Times

Cases of mumps reported in Penn.

A mumps outbreak that is currently affecting more than 1,300 people is spreading across college campuses in the Midwest and reached Pennsylvania last week. Two cases at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa. were confirmed last week.

Mumps is a viral disease that invades the salivary glands and other organs and no treatment exists, although it is rarely fatal. No cases have been reported yet in Philadelphia, but the University of Pennsylvania is taking measures to ensure no students become infected. The Director of Student Health Services at Penn said that all full-time students have been required to have at least one, if not two, doses of the mumps vaccine.

— The Daily Pennsylvanian

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BOO?
LOCAL BRIDGE SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE HAUNTING

Shedding light on Ugandan nightmare

Vermont students participate in the Global Night Commute

By Caitlyn Olson
Staff Writer

Many Americans would still be in the dark about the Rwandan genocide had Hollywood failed to step in with the production of "Hotel Rwanda." It is a sad truth that many atrocious events in the world must be popularized before they become a household name. But having a million dollar budget and Don Cheadle is not the only way to alert people to genocide in Africa. There is a genocide crisis raging in Uganda and a few active Vermont college students are not only aware of the nightmare in North Africa, but they care enough about it to take action, even if they do not have Hollywood on their side.

Last Saturday evening, Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) transported 30 to 40 students from Middlebury to join approximately 100 others from St. Michael's and the University of Vermont for The Global Night Commute demonstration intended to raise awareness about the "invisible children" of Uganda, a term coined by Invisible Children Inc., the non-profit organization that planned Saturday's event. The name refers to the tens of thousands of Ugandan children living in the North who have either been abducted or are in danger of abduction by rebel forces.

Since 1986, when Yoweri Museveni became president, the Ugandan government has made remarkable progress. Museveni is heralded by the international community as the new model for African leaders. Under his rule, Uganda has witnessed a drastic reduction of the spread of HIV/AIDS, economic growth and the establishment of peaceful resolutions with over a dozen insurgent groups.

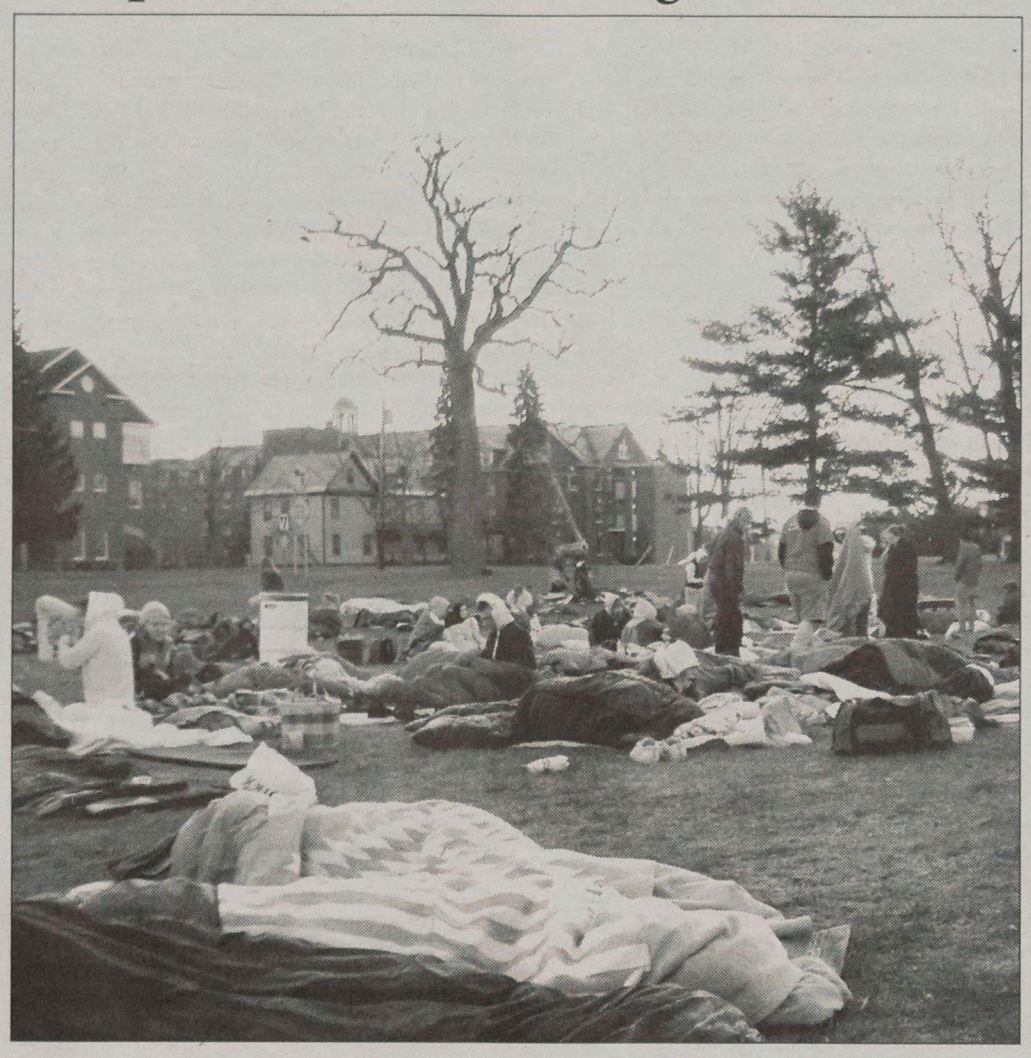
However, one rebellious faction remains active. The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) has terrorized the northern part of Uganda under the leadership of Joseph Kony since Museveni's inauguration two decades ago.

While the political objectives of Kony and the LRA are vague, their tactics are horrifically clear. The organization is notorious for kidnapping children from local villages and forcing them into a life dictated by violence and destruction as a child soldier. The children, some as young as seven years old, are given one choice upon abduction, though the choice is a double-edged sword. They can choose to commit atrocities such as murdering their parents, or they can choose to suffer a horrific death. Somewhere between 20,000 and 30,000 kids have been abducted to date, and the survivors currently comprise 80 percent of the army.

Fearful of this nightmare becoming a reality, 20,000-30,000 children have taken to fleeing their homes each night to travel to safer places usually found in urban centers — sometimes a six mile journey each way.

The Ugandan government has made an effort to offer another solution besides commuting nightly to sleep in the streets. They have set up internally displaced persons (IDP) camps, in which over 90 percent of the country's northern population is presently living. Unfortunately, conditions in the camps are widely regarded by humanitarian organizations as appalling. Sanitation and healthcare is almost non-existent, education is poor, overcrowding is a huge issue and government protection is so insufficient that the marauding LRA still represents a significant threat to the people inside.

The founders of Invisible Children Inc., an organization dedicated to alerting the West to the Ugandan crisis, were stunned by the situation when they first visited the country some two years ago. Created by three young students from California universities, Invisible Children Inc. began when the founders traveled to Africa to make a documentary and returned to America with a film and a cause. Their documentary film, also called "Invisible Children", has helped spread the word about the plight of the Ugandan children across the United States and the world. Their sidekick organization has taken action with an education program, bracelet campaign, and now, the Global Night Commute world-wide demonstration.



Courtesy

Vermont students and community members camp out overnight at the University of Vermont in order to draw attention to the plight of children in northern Uganda.

The nighttime demonstration, which took place in over 130 U.S. cities and in several other nations, was a collective effort by individuals, largely college students, who "commuted" from their homes to the streets in a show of solidarity with the Ugandan children who must make such journeys every night.

Middlebury participants marched three miles from the Unitarian Church on Church Street to the St. Michael's campus. They were joined there by other commuters and spent the next hours engaging in several planned activities such as an art project and a letter-writing campaign to President George Bush and the Vermont senators.

I always feel like I didn't deserve to be born into my circumstances any more than a kid in Uganda deserves to be a child soldier.
—Brigitte Frett '06

Ashley George, the Coordinator of Service-Learning at St. Michael's, and a number of St. Michael's students were reponsible for bringing the event to Burlington. Brigitte Frett '06 and Aakash Mohpal '09 were responsible for involving Middlebury students. Both schools had screened "Invisible Children" earlier in the year and were looking to act on the issues exposed in the film.

"I always feel like I didn't deserve to be born into my circumstances any more than a kid in Uganda deserves to be a child soldier," said Frett, president of the college's chapter of Amnesty International.

"It's my duty — because I was born with a lot of power and privilege — to use them in a productive way. Human rights is one of the most core issues facing us today. It's really important to use your voice on behalf of those who don't have a voice to use."

Frett was somewhat disappointed with the Middlebury turnout, as she had received confirmations from twice as many people as showed up, but described feeling touched by and proud of those who did participate. Regarding the event itself, everything ran smoothly and George thought it turned out to be "fun but also moving and educational."

An interesting moment came when three women officials from the Ugandan government who happened to be making a visit to Vermont were given the microphone to speak. The first two kept their comments brief and punchy, accentuating them with smiles and cheers. However, the third woman, who called herself "Faith," went on for approximately 20 minutes with an oration about the power of prayer in which she called the situation in the North "cool"—"Everything is cool, people are settling back into their normal lives."

Many students were upset and confused by her take on the state of affairs since it seemed to negate the entire Night Commute demonstration. Later in the evening, a young man who wishes to remain unidentified shared his personal experience in the IDP camps, from which he had just returned a week or two prior. He said his impression was that matters are far from "cool" and in fact are as appalling as ever.

"I thought that it was a great learning experience for all of us to hear two sides of a story, because there always are two sides, and they were clearly very different. I think if anything it should have inspired people to really do some research about this," said George.

The rest of the night consisted of a screening of "Invisible Children," socializing and lots of huddling together to stay warm in the cold night air. Everyone awoke with the sun and went their separate ways after a quick open-mike session. Middlebury students walked the three miles back to the church and the bus station and were dropped off by ACTR transit back on campus by 9:15 a.m. Participants seemed to have nothing by positive things to say about the demonstration.

For those who missed the Commute but would like to get involved with this cause, Amnesty International will have an outdoor art and music festival from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Proctor Terrace that will feature a silent auction of donated student work to raise money for Invisible

Vermonters venting hits the web

By Christine Fisher
Staff Writer

Blogs, short for weblogs, constitute a new phenomenon that has experienced rapid growth in the past decade as more and more people become computer literate and gain access to the Internet. Once strictly relegated to the geek population, blogs are slowly but surely making their way onto the radar screens of the average Dick and Jane.

The beginnings of the blogging movement are often traced back to 1994, when a Swarthmore College student, Justin Hall, started publishing his diary, entitled "*Justin's Links from the Underground*," on the web. This first gesture has gone on to inspire a whole slew of other public diary-scrapbook hybrids: Xanga was launched in 1996, followed by Open Diary in 1998, and Live Journal and Blogger.com in 1999.

Blogs have already demonstrated their clout as a powerful political tool, as they played an indispensable role in both the 2002 resignation of Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott after he made a particularly un-politically correct comment at Strom Thurmond's 100th birthday party, as well as Howard Dean's 2004 attempt to capture the Democratic presidential nomination.

In the first example, mainstream media outlets failed to see in Lott's comment a veiled endorsement of segregation, but the persistent negative attention drudged up by bloggers regarding his uncouth remark eventually led to his decision to resign.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Bertram Johnson described the divide that exists between the formal journalistic world and the more difficult-to-regulate blogosphere: "Media organizations…create sets of informal rules about what constitutes 'news' and what can and cannot legitimately be printed. It is possible that blogs are a form of new media that bucks these rules. Anything can be printed, and whatever occurs to the blogger can constitute 'news.'"

Johnson also noted that for this same reason, "blogs can facilitate epidemics of rumor and amplify the fury of extremists on all sides… mak[ing] us less willing to listen to the views of people with whom we disagree."

For example, consider the description of one Vermont-based blog called Alphecca (http://www.alphecca.com): "an occasional blog by an independent, libertarian, gay gun nut from Vermont. Opinions about all sorts of stuff I know nothing about." This is then followed by a picture of a cute, cuddly little kitten next to a gun, with the caption: "Even my cats have guns!"

As for Dean's presidential campaign, he utilized blogs to extend his network of supporters and accumulate funding for his campaign. Although Dean lost the nomination to Kerry, his campaign will still go down in history as one of the most thorough engagements of the American public at the grassroots level, in part due to his willingness to take advantage of the nascent blog culture.

From the humorous to the serious to the just plain strange, here are a few homegrown Vermont blogs that definitely deserve a stop as you take a joyride on the Internet superhighway:

- *Vermont Commons: People for an Independent Vermont* (http://www.vtcommons.org/blog):

The slogan once went, "Don't mess with Texas," but as this blog reveals, Vermont is definitely the new Texas, with 8% of Vermonters favoring secession from the United States. Although Vermont has not been an independent republic since 1791, the creators of this blog yearn to reinstate this long-lost status.

- *People for Naming a Mountain in Vermont Brokeback Mountain* (http://www.brokebackmountainvermont.com/):

"Our wish is to dedicate our mountain as an 'eternal' tribute to a movie that changed so many lives for the better. This is the ultimate acknowledgment of gratitude, respect, and admiration for the movie, its author (who went to school and lived in Vermont) and actors as well as to the concept of love between two people, no matter what their sex."

Hallucinogenius
From the Woods
The World as Viewed From the Green Mountains
Whoah!!!!!
PoliticsVT: Vermont's Online Political
Spank 'em Daimo!
I'm all in favor of not having my child accidentally run across porn or another way than to implement mandatory labeling laws. Read more.
Cut to the Chase
This Begat That
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED?
Only If Chaos, Destruction and Death is Your Goal
Not Found
The requested URL /vermont/ was not found on this server.

Photo Illustration By Vlad Lodoaba

A variety of Vermonters keep blogs on the web commenting on their lives.

- *Hallucinogenius* (http://effen-crazy.blogspot.com/):

"I was raised by a pack of wild amoeba in a Petri dish…couldn't stand the heat of the Bunsen burner, so I struck out on my own…"

If you ever feel like an outcast, simply pay a visit to this site, an ideal reminder that there are always people out there weirder and crazier than you.

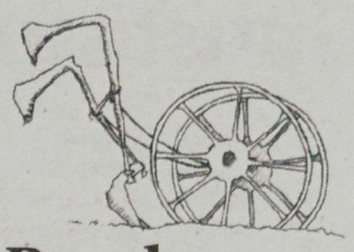
- *The Deadbeat Club* (http://deadbeatdirt.blogspot.com/):

"A place for fellow ne'er do wells to converge in an orgy of laziness and mindful mindfulness…oh, and watch cool videos."

Sick of refreshing your recently updated friends page on the Facebook? Has the novelty of the Aicha video finally worn off after watching it approximately 18,954,255 times instead of writing your history paper? If nothing else, blogs may very well be the next best procrastination method.

- *802 Online* (http://7d.blogs.com/802online/):

The mothership of local Vermont blogs. If you tire of my selections, go here and strike out on your own, where you will find an extensive selection of blogs for your viewing pleasure, ranging in subject matter from veganism to astronomy.



Rural Banter

BY ERICA GOODMAN

Once there was a giving tree ~
Shel Silverstein

While off to see the wizard, the wonderful wizard of Oz, Dorthoy and company are grabbed by irritable trees as the girl from Kansas attempts to take apples from their branches. Indian mythology describes the Tree of the Sun and the Moon that was believed to have told the future. One side of the trunk would talk at a time to answer any questions asked of it; in the daytime, the tree spoke as a male and at night as a female. The ancient Druids consulted Oak trees as if they were oracles and in Ireland, trees are said to help the greedy search for a leprechaun's gold. The Garden of Eden was the fertile ground of which Adam and Eve lost access to the Tree of Life and Immortality once they ate fruit from the Tree of Knowledge. The Great Deku Tree of "*The Legend of Zelda*" fame, is the 'father of the forest,' keeping careful watch over the animated Kokiri Forest. And of course, Washington proved his honorable nature when he admitted to chopping down the cherry tree and young Johnny Appleseed's notoriety was cultivated along with the apple orchards he laid out across the land.

Within a world riddled with chaos and instability since the moment of its conception, trees have signified constancy and wisdom. They have stood and continue to stand as symbols of aged knowledge and a hopeful branch into the future. Sturdy arbors offer protection and a quiet place to rest for those who settle beneath the boughs under the greenwood tree. We climb trees and cut trees and build our houses of wood. And whether a tree grows in Brooklyn or in the center of Yellowstone Park, it is our connection to nature and to the vitality of seemingly everlasting life.

Approaching Goodmanor farm, it is difficult to miss the ancient maple that dominates the front lawn of my grandmother's house. Now, it reminds me of home and of family, but I did not realize as a child playing beneath the weary and crooked arbor that it, in fact, understands the mystery of life. Like any maple, the old tree metamorphoses with every season, beginning the year naked of leaves, sprouting new growth in the spring and maturing in summer before wilting away come fall. Within this cyclical life rests the secret to happiness in our own existence: the ability to accept change and the unexpected. We may enjoy our time but getting caught in the past or worrying about the future only works to detract from the present moment. Change is inevitable and we may all rest assured predicting the probable paths our lives may take. Yet the exact fingerprint of life is unpredictable, minor details changing every day from the roots up.

Still the tree remains a tree.
And…
Oh, the trees was happy.
Oh, the tree was glad.

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

By Jack Lysohir
Opinions Editor

For an antidote to that memorable (or *unmemorable*) Saturday night, fried eggs and a stack of pancakes are a must. While the made-to-order omelets at Ross Dining Hall are delectable, and a brunch at Rosie's is hard to beat — a stroll downtown to Middlebury's own Steve's Park Diner should not be overlooked. Steve's Park Diner is the small blue building located on 66 Merchants Row—just off Main Street, situated between Grace Baptist Church and Middlebury Town Hall. Although not a hotspot for Middlebury College students, Steve's has long been an important gathering place for residents of Vermont's favorite quaint college town. Steve's first opened as Val Do Mar Diner in 1927, located where the Mobil Station now stands (across from the Swift House Inn). In the late 1930s, Steve's moved to its current location and changed its name to the Middlebury Diner. Since then, Steve's has through a number of different owners — from cops to circus folk to blacksmiths to railroad tycoons — and was destroyed in the Hurricane of 1949, rebuilt and later bought by Steven and Beth Dow some 16 years ago.

Just as the town fathers of Middlebury joined together in the early morning hours of the cozy diner in years past, Steve's is full of patrons who all seem to know each other and begin their conversations with "the usual" and end them with "see you tomorrow." To the Middlebury student, this can be intimidating but also somehow inviting. The service at Steve's is wonderful, in the way that most Vermont establishments have fine service. While Steve's does depart from the classic New York City diner with its polite service, it fortunately mirrors the speed of a great New York diner.

Steve's is open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. all week except for Sunday when the hours are 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. The breakfast menu boasts the normal diner favorites. The omelets are filling, tasty and speedy, with a variety of available ingredients, including sausage, bacon, ham, mushrooms and hash. The morning sandwich is another good choice, simply one egg with a choice of meat and cheese on an English muffin. Steve's side orders are not particularly tasty; the hash browns are nothing special and the Blueberry Muffin was only palatable after copious buttering. On the whole the breakfast choices were wonderfully average, but also fairly well priced. It should be pointed out, also, that Steve's seems to veer from the emphasis on organic foods and the major emphasis on freshness that so many Vermont restaurants have begun to tout. However, there is one notable exception — the incredible maple syrup, made by Sugar Brook Maple Co., owned and operated by the proprietors of Steve's.

Lunch at Steve's is another safe bet, but nothing out of the ordinary. The burgers are tasty and so are the French fries. The sandwich menu boasts a deep fried fish sandwich, moderately priced clubs and even an open-faced steak sandwich. Again, the Americana choices — BLT, turkey club, burger — are the best choices.

Steve's Park Diner is a strong dining option, not only for of its fare but because of its place in Middlebury — and Middlebury's history. Eating in the front of Steve's one looks out onto the handsome green at the town's center. The spare, highly undecorated feel of Steve's emphasizes that this diner is about its customers. People come to Steve's not for outstanding meals, but because the food is good and the diner that sits across from the green is a Middlebury institution. I can only hope that in time, some Middlebury College students will be at Steve's ordering their Sunday morning "usual."

Reviewer Recommends

Omelet
Morning Sandwich
Hamburger
French Fries
American sandwiches

Ghost stories come to life on Pulp Mill Bridge

By Rachel Durfee
Staff Writer

The setting is perfect: a quaint village in rural New England, where cows outnumber people and citizens smile and wave as they pass each other on Main Street. Idyllic in every way, time seems not to have interrupted life in this small town, where the dirty, exhaust-choked smells of the city are nowhere to be found, and instead the strong scent of manure perfumes the air. The night is characterized by its silence, the only light that of the stars and the occasional full moon. Farmhouses are spaced so far apart, no one would ever hear you scream…

This is the scene ghost stories are made of, so it is a wonder Middlebury does not have volume upon volume of its own ghoulish tales to be whispered clandestinely from ear to ear in the dark. There is, however, a growing rumor around campus that may send Middlebury into the ranks of Edgar Allan Poe, or even the next volume of "*Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*."

The story takes us to Pulp Mill Bridge, the covered wooden bridge that runs over Otter Creek and the halfway point on a run popular among college students. It is located east of campus on Weybridge Road on the Weybridge-Middlebury town line. Built in 1820, it maintains its 19th century charm and appearance despite more recent reconstruction. The wooden walkway to the side creaks and sags slightly under footsteps, and the water runs black and rapid underneath. Upon crossing this bridge, many a lone nighttime jogger claims to have spotted a little girl walking slowly across it, either in front of or behind him/her. She wears a backpack, doesn't speak, and doesn't turn around.

Apparently the image is so frightening, no jogger has yet chosen to approach or talk to the phantom, electing instead to pick up the pace and sprint home to their well-lit dorm room. With so little information, it is hard to draw conclusions, but such mystery only adds to the appeal of the story. There is no mention of any such otherworldly occurrences at the Sheldon Museum in town, but then again, maybe there are some things this quiet village would rather forget…

John Kruchoski '06.5 has never seen the ghost himself, but he did hear about if from two friends. Soon after, he went for a run in the pitch dark and when he arrived at the bridge he "felt really spooked." He picked up the pace and went flat-out as he crossed. Having made it over the bridge without incident, he felt a little foolish and decided if there was a ghost he wasn't going to miss the opportunity to see it in action. He waited around in suspense on the side. However, nothing appeared, and pressed with an urgent need to get to a bathroom, he left disappointed but not entirely unconvinced. "I never thought I'd believe in ghosts, but when you get out there in the dark and you've heard all these stories. Let's just say I'm never going running at night again."

So the next time you find yourself seated around a campfire in the nearby wilderness, slightly bored with the calm of toasting marshmallows and attempting to identify constellations, try sharing the ghost story. You may soon find yourself wondering if the faint rustle in the trees is not just the breeze, and the warmth of the flames may not be enough to keep shivers from running down your spine.

Photo Illustration/Angela Evancie and Marie Horbar

Photo Illustration/Angela Evancie and Marie Horbar

The ghost pauses momentarily on the Covered Bridge, just long enough to be captured on film. Stories of the ghostly girl on the bridge have been passed around town by word of mouth.

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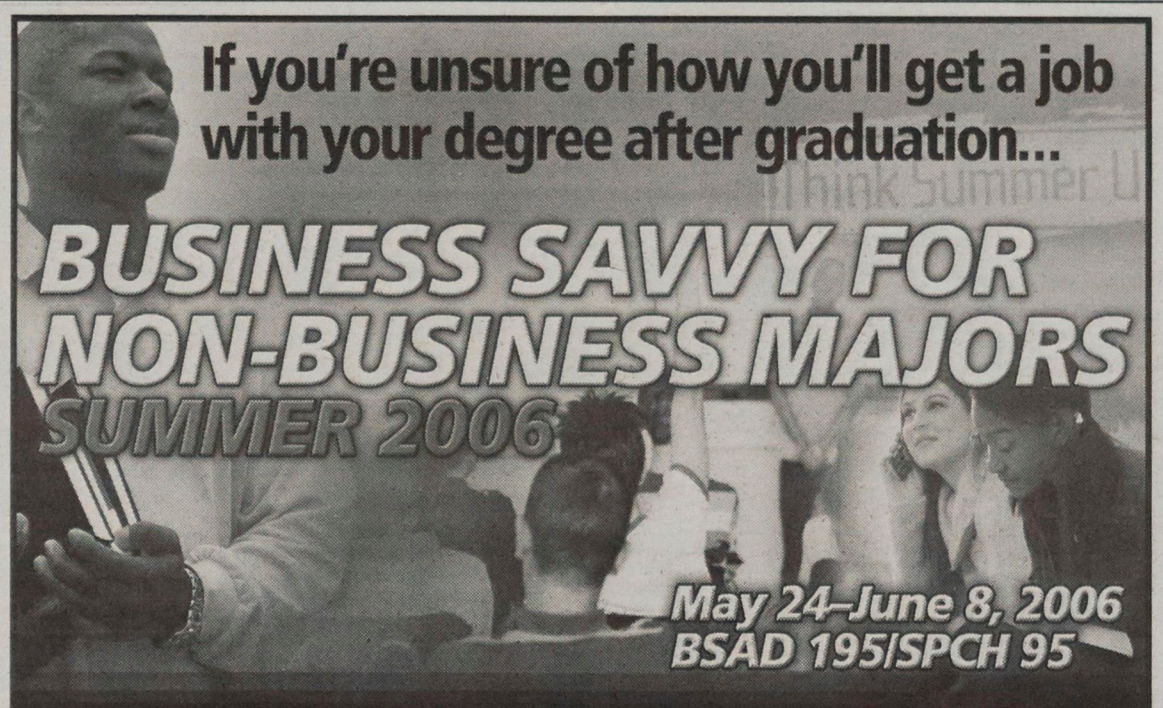
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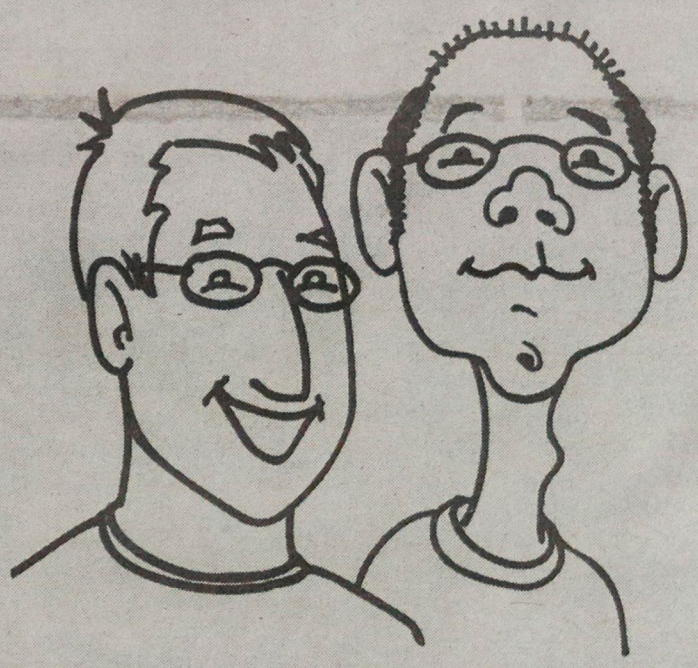

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opinions

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Editorials

Applause for transparency

The Student Government Association (SGA) should be commended for insisting on transparency in the counting of electoral votes. The published final vote count, though released more than a week after the election, lends an enhanced degree of legitimacy to the positions of elected SGA President and Student Co-Chair of Community Council. Alex Stanton and Annie Williams, both '07, can now begin preparation for the upcoming year knowing that Middlebury students truly stand behinds their platforms. The release of numbers is a fitting start for Stanton, who in fact captured 60 percent of all votes in the presidential election and prioritized transparency in governmental organizations while campaigning.

Because the former justification for keeping the tally a secret was respect for the losing candidates, the support of former presidential candidate Alina Levina '09 was key in finalizing the release. Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson pointed out that in past years candidates have received as few as five votes. Levina, though collecting sufficiently more votes than this all-time low, should be praised for her desire to know the final count with a view toward reforming her platform for the future.

The SGA should make sure the release of the numbers is consistent policy in future years. If they take the elections seriously at all, future candidates should be able to face the facts once the votes have been tallied.

A less positive facet of the released numbers is the large number of votes to abstain — 248 in the presidential race and 320 in the SCCOCC. These votes are frankly disappointing and are counterproductive — if students are truly dissatisfied with the SGA, a more effective recourse than making a symbolic vote of disapproval is to become involved in the organization themselves.

A right to know

In light of charges pressed upon members of the Duke University lacrosse team, which have resulted in much chaos on campus and hyped-up media coverage but no resolution as of yet, a cautious approach to disseminating information about Middlebury's own sexual assault case is understandable.

However, in a well-intentioned effort to protect the privacy of those involved, the administration seems to have eliminated any potential communication with the student body about the incident.

The idea of encouraging the community to be tight-lipped in an attempt to squelch rumors surrounding the allegations is inherently counterproductive. In a small environment like Middlebury, excessive confidentiality often breeds curiosity and misguided speculation.

Because the case is so sensitive, Old Chapel was initially in the right to avoid the traditional all-campus e-mail approach to communication when the severity of the allegations first became known.

By publishing the date, location and disposition of the reported sexual assaults in the Public Safety Log the same week the alleged rapes were reported and releasing an annual crime report, the College has ensured its adherence to the 1986 Clery Act. The federal legislation named in memory of rape and murder victim and Lehigh University student Jane Clery requires colleges and universities to disclose information about crimes on their campuses in a timely manner with the goal of increasing awareness of potential risks.

As the investigations progress on and off campus and the circumstances surrounding the alleged sexual assaults presumably grow clearer, the College should strive to circulate as much relevant, accurate information as possible about the allegations keeping the spirit of the Clery Act in mind. This information should be supplemented by basic information detailing the resources available to rape victims and the College's own recently revised sexual assault policy.

Conveying accurate information that can dispel rampant rumors would be much more productive than promoting secrecy and thereby adding fuel to the speculative fire.

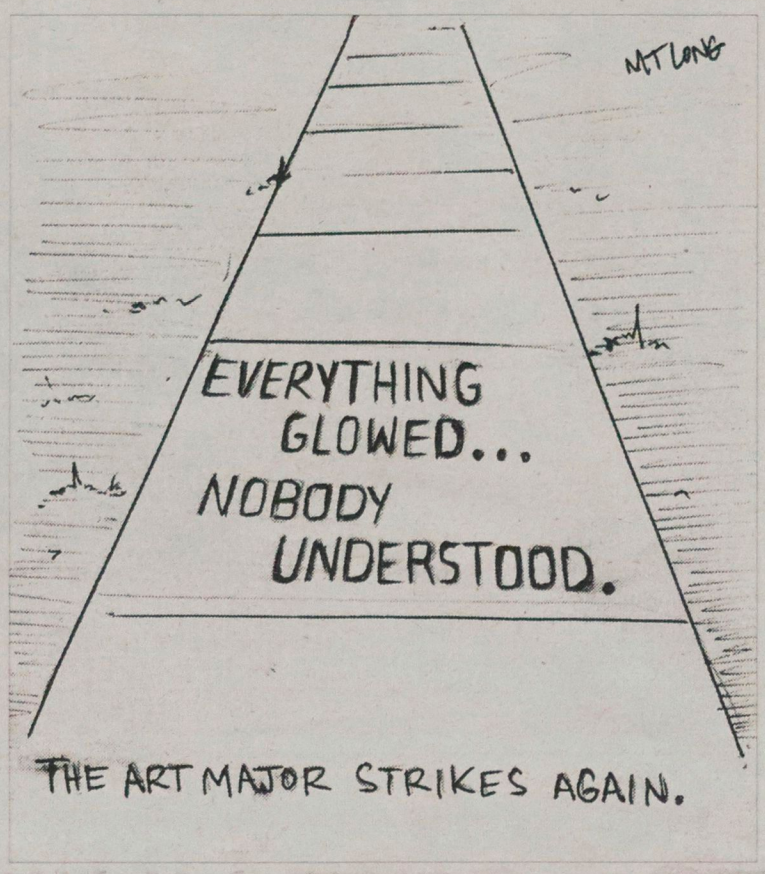
OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

HEARD ON CAMPUS

"I HAVE TO SAY, THIS AWARD MAKES ME FEEL LIKE A TOTAL ROCK STAR, AND LIKE THE LUCKIEST PERSON IN THE WORLD."

- Associate Dean of Student Affairs Karen Guttentag, after being awarded the DeGray Staff Appreciation Award Wednesday.



Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

With the average price of a gallon of gas in the United States at $2.91, the fourth highest ever, and growing public unrest regarding the rising gas prices and the war in Iraq, there has never been a better time to refocus America's energy strategy on alternative energy sources. President Bush should seize this historic opportunity to address the United States' increasingly costly and dangerous dependence on oil.

The biggest hurdle for alternative energy sources is funding, which could be addressed with a gas tax at the pump levied specifically to fund the research and development of alternative energy sources. Instead of subsidizing the oil industry through our Middle East entanglements, we should utilize two of America's biggest assets: brilliant scientists and engineers, who when given proper funding, could find cheaper, more efficient ways to produce ethanol-based energy and solar power, as well as our capitalist system, which when presented with the incentive of profit and a protected market, could be steered towards this dynamic innovation.

Now is the time to act! Prices jumped $0.13 in the last week. A one-cent tax per gallon of gas would go practically unnoticed by the consumer at the pumps, yet generate billions of dollars of funding and subsidies for the alternative energy industries that would have an instant impact.

Japan's oil consumption over the last 20 years has remained constant through its solar energy initiatives. The technology and innovation are at our fingertips. But we must, as a society, be willing to reach for it. That will take a societal shift in perspective that includes taking into consideration the future consequences of our oil reliance. If we don't act now, soon the problem will not be avoiding the skyrocketing summer gas prices, but rather the rising temperatures.

Sincerely,
Ryan K. Hart '06.5
Rutland, Vt.

SEE LETTERS TO THE EDTOR
PAGE 12

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737.

The insert that changed everything

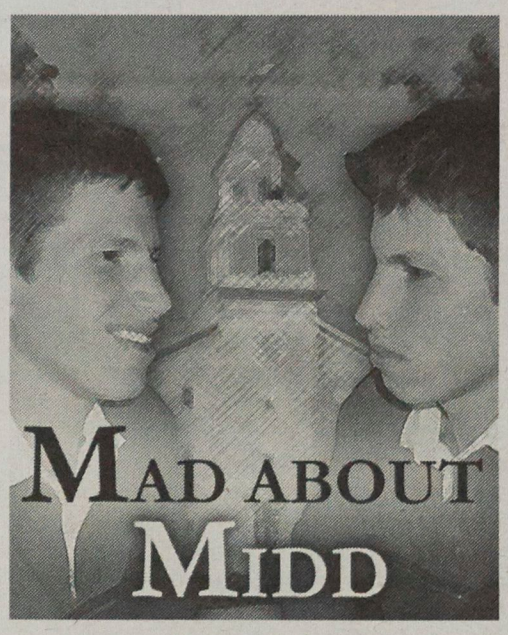
There must be a more serious consideration of the illegal insert into *The Middlebury Campus* (4/20/06) that defended junior Alex Stanton's campaign platform and criticized first-year Alina Levina's while personally attacking opinions author Viraj Assar '07. Modifying *The Campus* is fundamentally different from hanging posters or other legitimate means of campaigning because it abuses the paper's readership, who expect the documents contained therein to be certified and reviewed by its editors. Junior Julia Bredrup's unauthorized piece reeked of the kind of poor quality that necessitates editors in the first place. She regarded Assar's opinion, an edited and legal submission, as "biased and unprofessional," and proceeded to berate him personally, saying "you might have an excellent career as a fiction writer ahead of you." She also harassed Levina, labeling her "a freshman" whose platform is "blatantly recycled from previous years."

Although Stanton himself was ostensibly not involved in the creation, publication and distribution, his friends were, as established through written correspondence I had with SGA officials Andrew Carnabuci '06 and Daniel Inadomi '07. On election day, a friend of Bredrup approached me to ensure that my newspaper had received the correct insert and defended her decision to aid Stanton. Whether or not Stanton acknowledges the relation between his campaign and these friends, their participation is obvious. In a pertinent interview, Stanton neglected to address the illegal nature of this work and the unfair assertions made within. On the contrary, he agreed with many of its points and was "grateful." As a regular reader of *The Campus*, I am offended by this fragment of errant, vigilante journalism. As a voter, I am shocked that such a strategy would be employed during an SGA election.

I urge Stanton to steer his office toward respect and honesty, two elements that are evidently lacking from the current state of affairs.

Ironically, the insert was more detrimental to the Stanton campaign than helpful, and served only to evidence the opinion it was attempting to defeat. I have no connection to either campaign and as a senior, won't be affected by the outcome. Indeed, my interest in the SGA election began only *after* reading Bredrup's insert. For the record, my vote counted for those who didn't have one – next year's first-year students to whom, in the words of Stanton's campaign, "nobody will listen." I urge Stanton to steer his office toward respect and honesty, two elements that are evidently lacking from the current state of affairs. I also encourage Bredrup, the next time she publishes, or doesn't publish, in *The Campus*, to apologize. This is an insult to journalism and democracy on this campus.

COLE DOVEY '06
A BIOCHEMISTRY MAJOR
FROM PACIFICA, CALIF.



I'd rather be fishing...

By Dave Barker
OPINION COLUMNIST

I sent my acceptance card to Middlebury over four years ago with the foolish notion that I would be attending an outdoors resort. After the rigor of getting into a select liberal arts school, I figured that it would be all play and no work for four years in pastoral Vermont. The true abbreviation for Middlebury College would be MMC instead of MC. There would be ample time for Long Trail ambles; I would become an uncanny canoeist. When work rolled around, I could throw my laptop in my backpack and open a Word document somewhere in the Green Mountains.

The Viewbook led me to believe that most students lounged on the grass of Battell Beach, typing away on tangerine-colored iBooks. Of course, the Viewbook, like beer goggles, tends to distort reality. My hopes sank during those first few years, but last weekend, with finals around the corner, I checked into the resort.

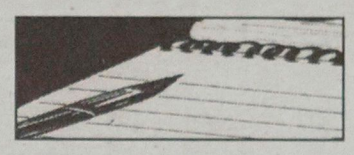
I found Club Midd with the help of the College fly fishing club, MiddFly. Founded in 1999 by two first-year roommates, the club has slowly evolved into an active organization for anglers of all levels. Casting clinics, lectures, competitions and fishing trips have been part of the spring revival of the club.

Last weekend, I took fly casting skills, gradually honed over my time here down to Southern Vermont for a club trip. The great part about fly fishing is that you don't need to cast with the artistic rhythm of Brad Pitt in a movie like "A River Runs Through It" to enjoy yourself. Life can't get much better when you're spending time on a river.

When fly fishing, you spend your time *in* the river, feeling the tug of a roaring current or slippery rocks underfoot as you wade up or downstream casting into places where fish are likely to hold. The sport frustrates more than it satisfies, as certain species of fish like trout become restrained after being offered imitation after imitation of their favored insects.

Indeed, the trout we encountered on the Battenkill River and southern stretch of Otter Creek gave us the coolest of cold shoulders in the 40 degree water. The brown and rainbow trout we did hook had been recently released from a hatchery, and well, you can't blame a fish raised in a pen for wanting to sample our diverse flies with names like Wooly Bugger, Prince Nymph and Copper John.

Even if the fishing wasn't the most productive, leaving campus for a couple days has to be more productive than outlining a paper two weeks before it's due or underlining and highlighting for hours. I find myself more productive upon returning. Sometimes you have to check-out during the busy times and check-in to your favorite resort.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

Does it not seem decidedly contradictory for the College to expect the Class of 2006 to donate to the same alma mater that left such a bitter taste in its mouth after fining seniors $500 for not leaving campus quickly enough on the same day of their milestone commencement ceremony?

Aside from the detrimental impact that such a policy would have on those seniors' contributions to the College endowment, this 11 p.m. deadline — recently reinforced in an class-wide e-mail on Tuesday by Dean of the College Tim Spears — is both a logistical and emotional inconvenience for members of the senior class and their families.

The moments immediately following the ceremony allow students to say their final goodbyes to classmates and their college. And since very few graduates will want to spend the majority of Senior Week packing up their rooms in preparation for this moment, these goodbyes will have to take place with an armful of suitcases, rushing to catch rides to the airport on time.

The College rightfully requests this hasty departure from the dorms so custodians can clean in preparation for Reunion Weekend. Yet it seems unfair that the College inflicts a three-day turnaround between accommodating its recent graduates and alumni, but allows for a 12-day period before the arrival of Language School students — most of whom only spend a maximum of nine weeks at the College as opposed to four devoted years.

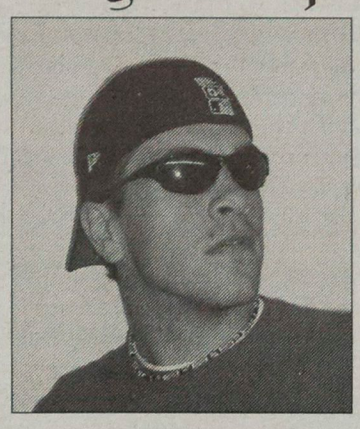
When Trinity tried to change its tradition in 2003 by having graduating seniors move out the same night of commencement, the administration met with immediate outcry from the entire class, so Trinity President Dick Hersh changed the move-out deadline to noon the next day, allowing students to enjoy the twilight hours on campus. Alternatively, Middlebury could take the same posture as Princeton or Wesleyan and combine its reunions with Senior Week or graduation weekend.

It would be a shame for such an easily avoidable deadline to make our seniors' final college memory one to despise instead of one to savor.

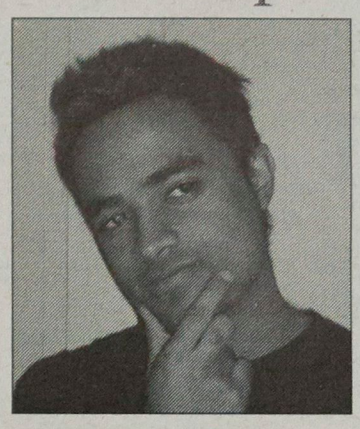
—DANIEL L. J. PHILLIPS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Middlebury Campus online poll

"I DISAGREE WITH HIS POLICY OF ALLOWING THE RESERVES TO RECRUIT ON CAMPUS BECAUSE OF THEIR DISCRIMINATION POLICY, BUT OTHERWISE HE'S DONE A GREAT JOB."
—HANNAH RABINOVITCH '09

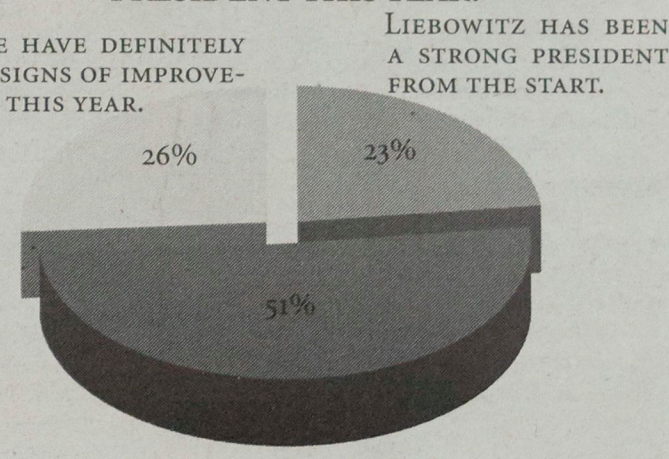


"IF BY MORE EMAILS, THAN YES."
—PATCH CULBERTSON '08.5



"YES, HE'S CUTTING DOWN ON UNNECCESSARY EXPENDITURES AND INFRASTRUCTURE."
—VIJAY KUMAR '09

HAS RONALD LIEBOWITZ IMPROVED AS PRESIDENT THIS YEAR?



BRING BACK JOHNNY MAC.

Results based on 51 responses collected between April 8 and April 13 at www.middleburycampus.com

NEXT WEEK'S POLL QUESTION: WAS IT RIGHT OF THE SGA TO RELEASE THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT ELECTIONS?

C/O The Poor Farm, Middlebury, Vermont

For almost 20 years, our household electric bill arrived addressed to "The Poor Farm," Middlebury, Vt., even though our family was not impoverished. Both my parents worked diligently to provide a home with food on the table.

Yet in the 1970s during the OPEC oil embargo, my father, irate with the electric rates, used his trusty Smith-Corona manual typewriter to inform the electric company that if electric rates continued to increase our next bill should be sent to the "Poor Farm" because that is where we would end up. His letter contained enough adjectival insertions to warrant attention, and thereafter our bills arrived addressed to "The Poor Farm," Middlebury, Vt.

Surprisingly, until 1948 some Vermont towns maintained "Poor Farms" as a community's method to meet the basic needs of its poor. In exchange for some labor the poor were provided with warm shelter and food. This illustrates one way Vermont communities have seen fit to take care of their own.

This history, however, seems lost on the Middlebury College community. As a member of Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, Middlebury College espouses the ideal of "fostering a work environment and economic climate that enables every worker to earn a fair income safely..." Even though the College, as promulgated by College Treasurer Robert Huth, "provides many resources to alleviate poverty in Addison County," it fails to acknowledge or examine the direct impact it has on low-wage earners.

Admittedly, there is not a single uniform "livable wage" that applies to all jobs . However, the challenge of determining a fair income for all College employees is not beyond the reach of an institution noted for its exemplary "higher" education. In fact, credible research on this subject already exists.

The State of Vermont Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) has, since 2001, estimated the cost of basic needs and the equivalent livable wage. Indexing the JFO's 2005 figures to the Consumer Price Index, the Vermont Livable Wage Campaign has determined that in 2006 a single person living in rural Vermont needs to earn at least $13.14 per hour ($27,331 a year) to meet their basic needs.

> While individually, each person in these positions may not be vital to achieve the "Strategic Mission" of the College, collectively they are people vital to the daily operation of a functional campus.

Additionally, a single parent with one child must earn at least $18.84 per hour ($39,187 a year), while a two-person household with two incomes and two children needs each wage earner to make at least $15.04 per hour ($62,566 a year) to meet their basic needs.

In February of 2006, the Vermont Housing Council and the Vermont Housing Awareness Campaign released their publication "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Housing and Wages in Vermont," which bears these numbers out. To afford the median purchase price of $182,000 for a home in Vermont requires a household to have an income of approximately $65,000.

Further, to afford a modest two bedroom apartment at the fair market rate of $723 a month a household must earn at least $28,903 a year. Thus, when the College alleges development of affordable housing with a median asking price of $230,000, it is easy to discern these are not affordable to Addison County's low-wage earners.

Against these figures, the College also fails to "enable every worker to earn a fair income..." Excluding faculty positions, there are 582 "Job Titles" on the College Human Resource Web page. These titles, however, do not represent individual positions. For example, "Custodian" is one "Job Title," which covers over 60 individuals.

Of these "Job Titles" nearly 39 percent have had a hiring minimum of under $13.00 per hour (less than $27,040 a year). Furthermore 22 percent of these low-wage "Job Titles" require sustained employment for at least 12 to 16 years before receiving a wage that approximates $13.50 an hour. While individually, each person in these positions may not be vital to achieve the "Strategic Mission" of the College, collectively they are people vital to the daily operation of a functional campus. As such, each individual in these positions should be granted the dignity to exchange his or her devoted 40 hours of work each week for a warm home with food on the table.

Clearly, this is moral argument. But, just as the College has made the moral decision to divest from Darfur, so to it can meaningfully discuss how to provide a "fair income" to its employees. Anything less would be, in a phrase attributed to the College President, "intellectual laziness." Consider this — the people who prepare each meal on campus; the people who begin their day at 3 a.m. to ensure you needn't search for toilet paper in any restroom you use; the people who deliver you safe to the Health Center or even the hospital after a night of debauchery, are the same people who may not earn enough to house and feed their own household on the 40 hours a week they spend keeping the College alive.

As the College community considers its compensation package, I hope it finds a solution that does not necessitate my paycheck being mailed to The Poor Farm, Middlebury, Vt.

MICHAEL R. GLIDDEN
DINING SERVICES
COUNTER WORKER BARISTA

SUBMIT
(it's your last chance...)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

While I regularly enjoy *The Campus*, I found that the quality of last week's issue was greatly affected by the undertones of indignation over Julia Bredrup's rebuttal pamphlet. Simply put, Ms. Bredrup was right, and *The Campus* was wrong. I would like to note that neither Alex Stanton nor Julia Bredrup compelled me to write this article; I am addressing this issue out of my own moral exigency regarding the issue of free speech.

Once in the editorial, and again in the cover story, *The Campus* accuses Ms. Bredrup of illegally inserting her rebuttal to Mr. Assar's piece.

Ms. Bredrup's actions, however, are not illegal until thusly ruled by a court. I would urge them to keep this in mind.

Also, *The Campus* possesses no special sanctity capable of being violated. In 1829, when freed slave David Walker began slipping his anti-slavery pamphlet into the linings of the pants he made at a clothing factory, was he violating the sanctity of those trousers? No. He was conveying important information.

As an SGA senator, I sent out an e-mail encouraging seniors to vote. I was particularly troubled by one response I received, condemning Mr. Stanton on the grounds that he illegally (there's that word again) inserted pamphlets into *The Campus*. This student informed me that he was so ouraged because he "expects the documents contained [by *The Campus*] to be certified and reviewed by its editors."

This is terrifying to me. That there are intelligents students at Middlebury College, who are offended that writing presented to the public is not filtered and edited is absurd. Do Middlebury students want pablum? Do they want censorship? Is *The Campus* staff the appropriate body to provide this "certification" of opinions, or perhaps we should create a council of inquisition and defer to them?

I would ask the *Campus* staff and Middlebury students to remember that the newspapers, though they have long been the defenders of free speech, hold no monopoly over it. In fact, it seems a bit hypocritical when the self-proclaimed freespeechers whine over the fact that someone used their paper to express an idea. Contrary to what seems to be the popular opinion, newspapers are not the only defenders of free speech. Common Sense, The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were all pamphlets long before the newspapers picked them up. Freedom of speech, as sure as it holds no favored ideas, also holds no favored medium.

Sincerely,
Andrew Carnabuci '06
Mount Kisco, NY

Divestment: Wrong Answer

The atrocities of the Darfur region in the Sudan are indeed troubling, and only compounded by the frustration of inaction. The international community's hesitation has led advocacy groups to look to alternative methods to produce change, promoting the divestment, or selling, of stock held in companies doing business with the Sudan. This creativity and determination is admirable, and should be welcomed and encouraged. Divestment, however, may in fact be counter-productive to this worthy cause.

A campaign for divestment has been circulating among colleges and universities, as well as state and local governments. The argument is that the involvement of American firms in the Sudan is essentially funding the genocide, and "propping up" a brutal regime. Our endowments and retirement funds should not go to supporting genocide, the argument goes. We should punish all companies who continue to do business with the Sudan, encouraging them to withdraw from the region and starve the Sudanese regime of resources.

This argument is provocative, but flawed. It is a common misconception that holding shares of a stock, or even purchasing them, benefits the company. Think of shares as baseball cards. The card manufacturer sells them to you in a wrapper, and you pay them a few dollars for that package. But this is not how you "invest" in baseball cards. Certain cards grow in value. The majority of transactions are actually the trades of these cards between collectors, much as stocks are traded. But the maker of the cards doesn't benefit from this trading. If I decided to get rid of all my Nolan Ryan cards, does the manufacturer lose anything? True, if Vermont declared that all residents must sell their Nolan Ryan cards, the price would go down temporarily, because you'd have to sell your cards pretty cheap to convince other collectors to buy that many at once. If a card manufacturer executive's salary depended on the value of cards, that might hurt for a little while. But before long, people realize how cheap they can get a valuable card, and start bidding higher and higher. Nolan Ryan didn't become less valuable because Vermont doesn't approve of him.

In divesting themselves of these companies, what have colleges and universities, including such respectable institutions as Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, and now Middlebury, and state governments (Vermont, California) done? Any dip in the stock price that would tug at the wallets of shareholders, and executives with stock options, would be minor, if noticeable, and short-lived. Some would argue the policy is a symbolic gesture, a moral imperative. They acknowledge the economic impotence of divestment in influencing companies financially, but instead argue that it is a moral stand that must be taken, that it will draw the attention of company management. Under intense shareholder pressure to perform and grow earnings, is such a demonstration really going to convince a company to change its policy of its own accord?

In truth, divestment does have a big impact. Policies of divestment dramatically shift the composition of the ownership of the companies in question. The reason is simple—when all the morally conscious investors sell their stake in a company, the purchasers, logically, must then be morally inferior. Where at one point supporters of withdrawal from Sudan may have owned a large proportion of the company, after a policy of divestment, none of them do. In effect, divestment is selling legal control over these companies. Selling shares equals selling shareholder votes. Divestment is abstention—a way to wash our hands of the matter and feel better, running from the problem.

In fact, if the goal is to influence companies through the stock market, we should be buying more stock, not selling what we have. Democracy is not limited to the political realm, and shareholders have votes and rights with respect to the company they own a stake in. Powerful Disney CEO Michael Eisner was recently ousted over shareholder discontent. The unification of a coalition of universities, many of which have already demonstrated commitment to the issue, along with the institutional advisers that serve them, would be a powerful force for change. An organized movement to exercise shareholder power would hold greater promise for success, and would at the same time make just as bold a statement.

I close with a final question, and that is the morality of operating in the Sudan. It is undeniable that American business presence in the Sudan benefits the country economically, and thus benefits the brutal regime that is in place. It is also clear that businesses vary in their friendliness toward and usefulness to the regime. But is the proposition of starving the country in the best interests of its people? Is economic devastation the path to a brighter future?

DANIEL HUTNER '06
AN ECONOMICS MAJOR
FROM MANCHESTER, VT

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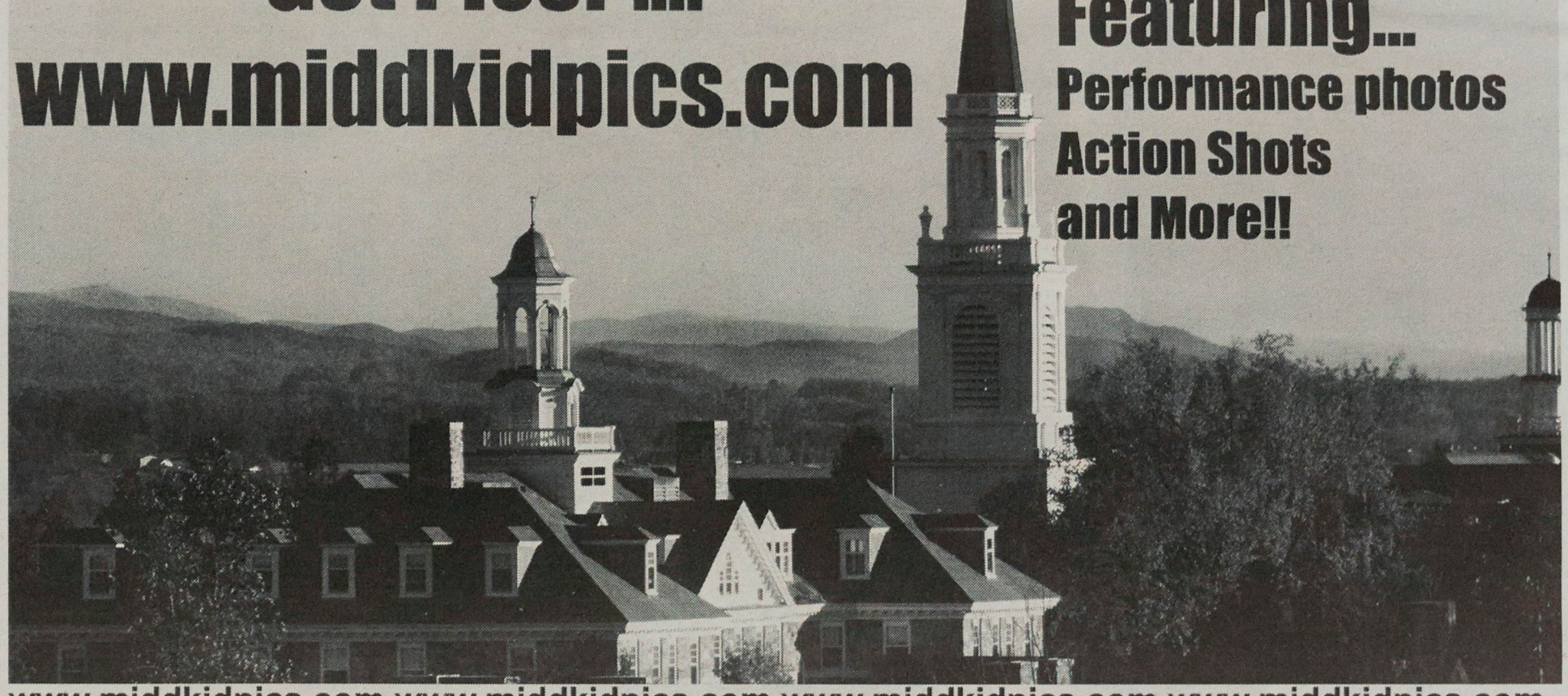

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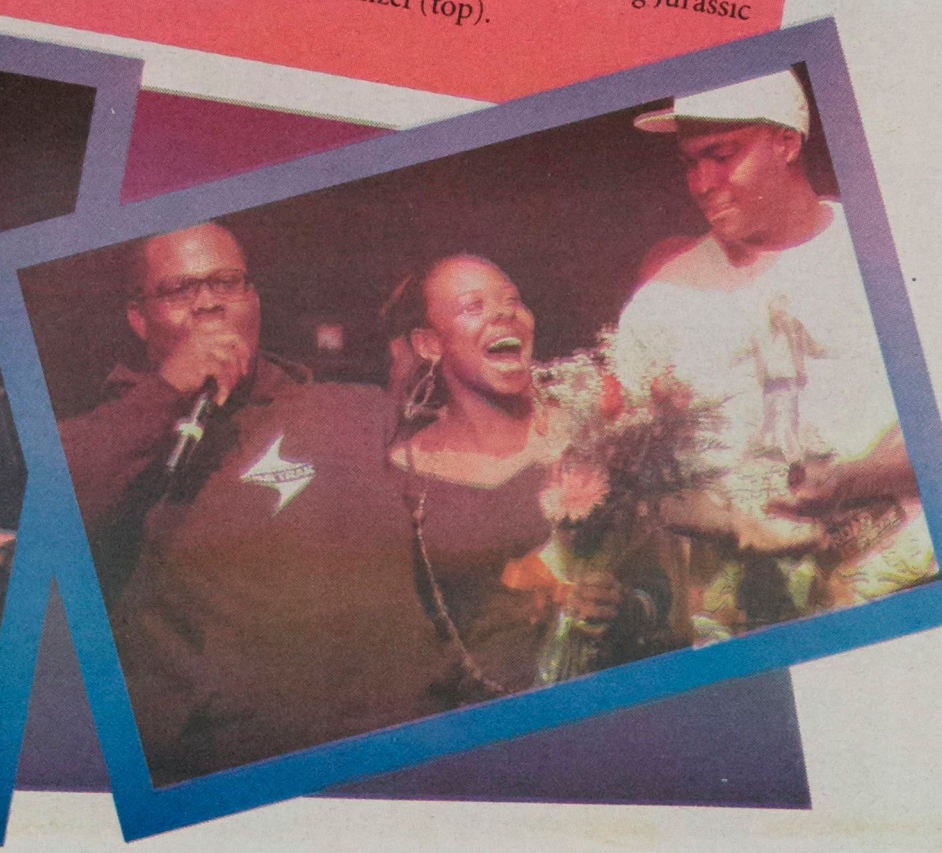
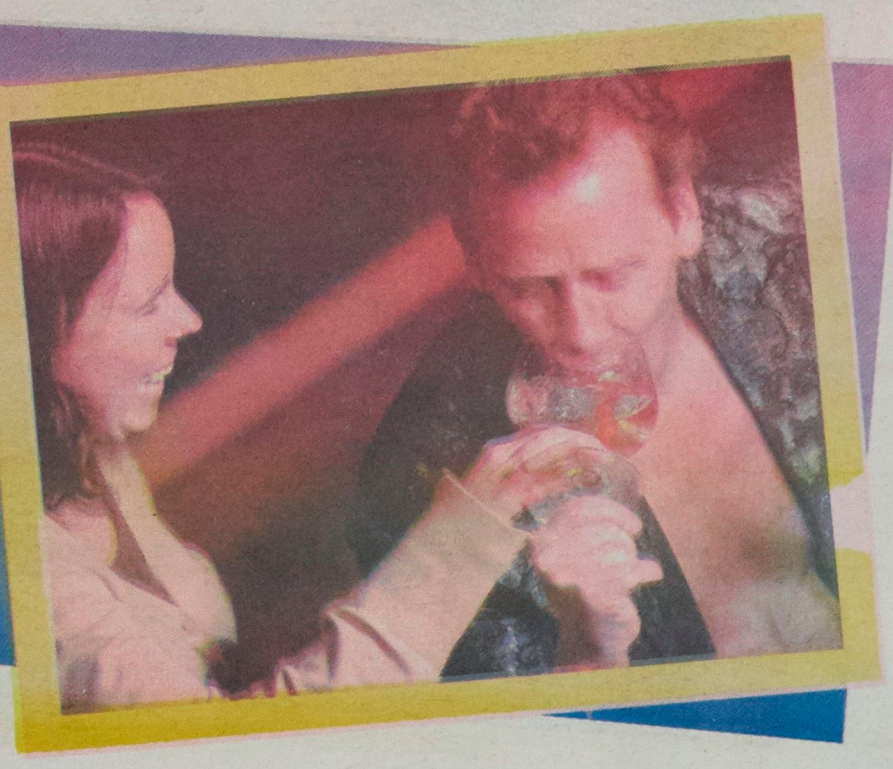
OMG! Best Weekend EVER!!!

This weekend saw some of the biggest events to hit campus this year. On Friday night the African American Alliance put on the "Video Middlebury Awards" Fashion Show in the McCullough Social Space (bottom) At the same time MCAB brought back Stevie Starr the Regurgitator, a unique entertainer who did tricks with items such as goldfish, fire and bubbles (opposite bottom).

Later that night, the enormously successful Relay for Life, an all-night event that involved both the College and the town in an effort to raise money to fight cancer (opposite top). The weekend was capped off by a concert featuring Jurassic 5, Naughty by Nature and Rahzel (top).





photos by Albert Bitici and Vlad Lodoaba

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Midd8 wraps up April campaign

Final events include discussion with Vermont Congressman

By Aylie Baker
Staff Writer

A panel discussion last Friday, "Global Partnerships in Development" marked the close of Midd8, a month-long series of events focused on facilitating awareness and involvement through the education and promotion of global issues. It was the culmination of what Divya Khosla '06 and Courtney Matson '06.5 had originally planned as a two-day symposium but had morphed into a 30-day campaign featuring 38 separate events.

The overwhelming success of Midd8 has garnered significant attention both on campus and across the country and has led directors Khosla and Matson to consider the possibility of expanding the scope of their mission by starting a nonprofit organization. Over the course of one month, Midd8 united the forces of nearly 30 student organizations and presented Middlebury's student body and community with dozens of events aimed at evoking increased awareness and a desire for action.

Midd8, insist Khosla and Matson, is both an academic and social idea. In addition to various scholarly discussions, the campaign presented a host of other events ranging from community involvement to T-shirt stenciling and a campus barbeque. Such variety provided students with the "ability to latch [themselves] onto one event," said Khosla, and ensured the dissemination of their message of social involvement.

Another part of Midd8's success can be attributed to its ability to unite Middlebury's numerous student organizations under one goal. By effectively channeling the College's talent into a common cause, the Midd8 campaign was able to broaden both its scope and its influence. Remarked Khosla, "if you make the movement more concentrated rather than diffuse, it will be much more powerful."

Friday's panel discussion, though in competition with Relay for Life and several other school functions, drew an impressive crowd of 85 students. Escalating turnout over the course of the month reflected the widespread success of the campaign as Midd8 "gained impact exponentially throughout the entire process," reflected Matson.

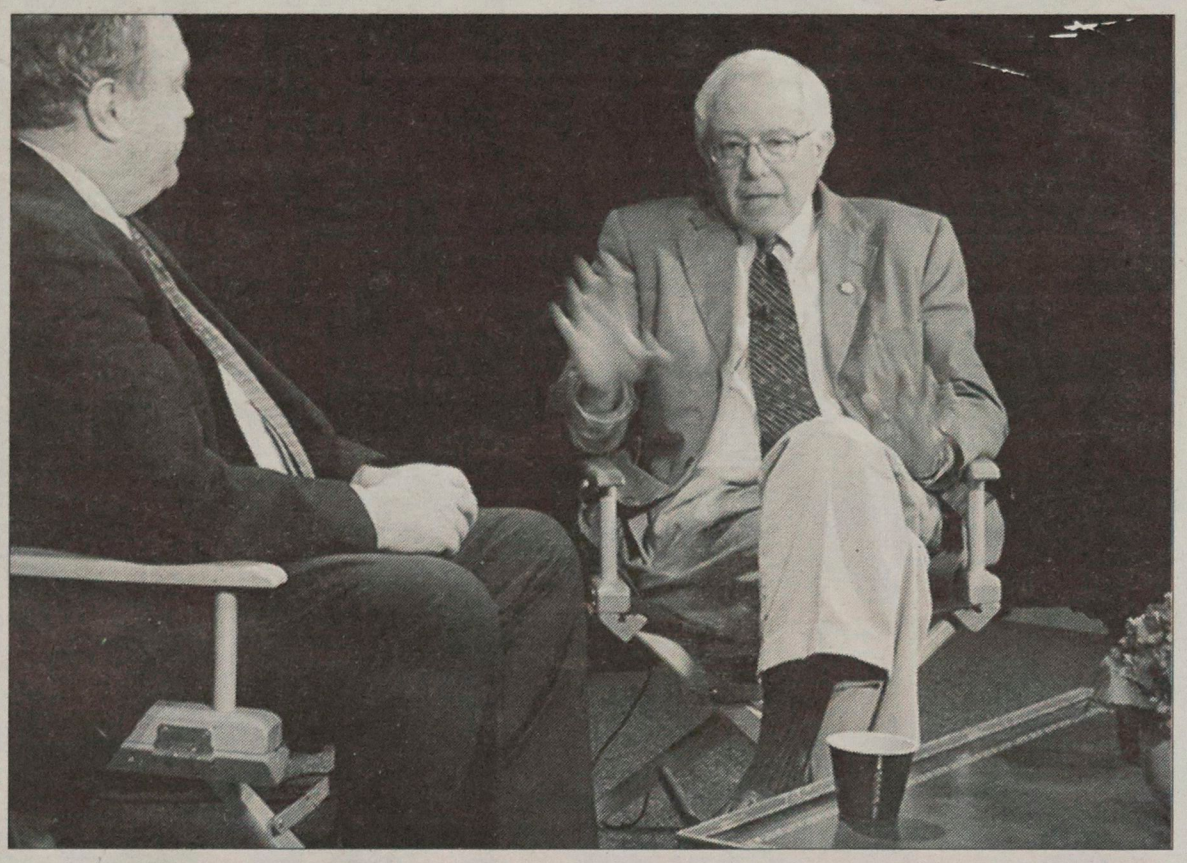
Of the speakers, perhaps most impressive was Congressman and '06 Senate candidate Bernie Sanders (D-Vermont). "Sanders brought a face to policy making," explained Khosla, providing a "perspective on our capacity as students and as leaders for achieving goals." In addition to touching on such topics as social corporate responsibility, AIDS and democracy-building, Sanders shifted the student gaze to obstacles existing within the United States. He was able to put the campaign into an American context by placing particular emphasis on the domestic rather than international applications of the U.N. Millennium Development goals. In the past year, said Sanders, five million people in the United States. alone slipped into poverty. As we work to ameliorate problems in the international sphere, he stressed, we must simultaneously advocate introspection in our own country.

> Bernie Sanders helped put a face on policymaking at the panel discussion, pressing students to focus the same energy they give to international problems on similar

While the discussion marked the close of this year's Midd8 campaign, Khosla and Matson insist that represented only the beginning of a greater global initiative. Indeed, the hard work of Khosla and Matson over the last 10 months has paid dividends. In addition to realizing their goal of spreading global awareness at Middlebury, the two directors have found themselves inundated with letters of praise as well as job offers. The positive response to the campaign at Middlebury College has moved Khosla and Matson to consider launching a nonprofit following their graduation. The campaign at Middlebury is what they call a "template" for a larger movement. Now that they have completed this year's campaign, directors Khosla and Matson say they have established an extensive network of connections and are familiar with the time and energy needed to implement their ideas. "Next year maybe we'll have this campaign going at three schools," explains Matson, "the next year, maybe 10."

The success of Midd8 has served to highlight the College's role as a fomenter of global and environmental activism. While Middlebury has admittedly set the bar high, it can also act as an example to other schools. "Even though people might not have heard of us," explains Khosla, the relative anonymity associated with being a small college nestled in "the mountains of Vermont" only further demonstrates the ability of all colleges and all students "to touch global society and bring about general responsibility in the world." In keeping with Middlebury's new credo, "Knowledge without Borders," Khosla and Matson's said their project would aim to galvanize student activism nationwide. With the tremendous wealth of resources and intellectual fervor present on college campuses, "we as the educated elite… have the responsibility to work on issues that are most pressing," Matson said.

Middlebury will host the second annual Midd8 campaign next spring, by which point organizers hope the trend will have spread to multiple colleges nationwide.



Courtesy

Congressman Bernie Sanders (D-VT) participated in a panel discussion last Friday that focused on activism and the importance of domestic issues. Congressman Sanders is running for Vermont's open Senate seat this fall, which is being vacated by retiring Democrat Patrick Leahy. The discussion represented a culminating event in the "Midd8" series of 28 events that took place over the course of the month of April.

HE'S STUCK ON SAVING WETLANDS

Courtesy

Raising awareness, SGA President Eli Berman '07.5 allowed himself to be taped to the wall of Mead Chapel last Friday even though donations to benefit the Gulf Coast wetlands fell short of the set $1,000 goal.

Stevie Starr shocks, delights crowd

By Mike Murali
Staff Writer

At 10:30 p.m. last Friday night in the McCullough Social Space, a man swallow a light bulb, a nail, several coins and rings, a lock, a key, three fish, an eight ball, a magnet, some tacks and a host of other assorted items, after which he proceeded to throw them back up. This man was Stevie Starr, the professional regurgitator.

When students first heard that "Steve" was coming to Middlebury- they weren't too impressed. However, after watching him swallow sugar and water and then spit the sugar out dry, they changed their minds. Friday's performance was not Starr's first appearance at Middlebury. In fact, according to Colleen Sullivan '07, a student organizer for MCAB, this latest spectacle merely represents Starr's latest in a series of shows that began in 1998.

> He swallowed two fish, Moby Dick and Free Willy, and brought them out unharmed.

The show's highlights included Starr swallowing a light bulb and an 8 ball, and then regurgitating them both. For those who thought Starr's tricks might all just be fancy slights of hand, watching an eight ball coming out of his mouth might make them reconsider their doubts.

With a thick Scottish accent and a crude sense of humor, Starr performed various regurgitating acts. There were periods where he would claim that something was stuck in his throat, and then swallow something larger, which he claimed would displace the smaller object and force it up.

Said Sullivan, "I had read a lot about him and seen many pictures and video clips, but none of it really prepared me for what I saw. It completely blew my mind."

Other parts of Starr's act included borrowing a cigarette from an audience member and smoking it to the end, without ever blowing out the smoke, which he kept in his stomach. After a certain period, he asked the audience how much of the smoke they would like out, from what orifice and in what form. Though Starr was joking with the crowd, many Middlebury students requested that he blow smoke rings out his back end. Instead, Starr blew the smoke into a large soup bubble.

Starr performed a similar trick with butane, swallowing the gas from a can and releasing it into a bubble and then lighting that bubble on fire. Following this event, he went through the audience asking several female audience members for their rings, which he proceeded to swallow. The rings could be heard clinking in his stomach, much like the coins he swallowed near the beginning of the program. The girls that had volunteered their rings were brought on stage, and Starr announced that the last girl left would be hypnotized and forced to regurgitate a fish (this didn't actually happen, although one girl claimed to have done it before).

Vlad Lodoaba

After imhaling smoke from a cigarette, Stevie the Regurgitator filled a soap bubble with the smoke, amazing the crowd gathered at McCullough.

For his final acts, Starr swallowed two fish, named Moby Dick and Free Willy, and brought them back out unharmed, despite several requests from the audience to see the fish brought out broken in half with one eye missing. Following this he swallowed a ring, a key and a lock, and managed to spit out the ring locked into the lock. To top off the evening, Starr took another fish named Jaws and a film canister filled with water with its lid off and, after swallowing all three items, managed to bring up the water-filled canister with the fish sealed inside. Starr received a standing ovation.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Stevie Starr, the Regurgitator	Any other regurgitation on Friday night
Stevie, you swallow like no one else.	Ewwww, throw-up...
No first-year girls going on tour with J 5	Rahzel
Apparently, the Class of 2009 isn't very naughty by nature...	Oh, was he here, too?
Midd Fly Fishing	Fishing
"The way to someone's heart is through their fly." Wow, those are good t-shirts — you are officially a legit club.	Just because your t-shirts are cool, doesn't mean that you're not nerdy...

World Briefs

By Annie Onishi

No peace deal

Sudanese rebel groups rejected on Sunday a peace agreement calling for an end to violence in the Darfur region of western Sudan. The agreement had called for a ceasefire, more political representation of the people of the Darfur region and the disarming of the Janjaweed, an Arab militia group responsible for the mass violence and displacement of millions of black Africans. The rejection came just hours before a deadline set by the 53-nation African Union and several hours after the Sudanese government announced its acceptance of the proposal.

—*The New York Times*, Abuja, Nigeria

Reparations in China

The Chinese government has paid 70,000 yuan ($8,700) to civilian Tang Deying in reparations for the 1989 death of her son Zhou Guocong following the Tiananmen Square Massacre. Zhou, then 15, died while in police custody days after a violent suppression of the Tiananmen Square protests. According to local activist Huang Qi, the reward is the first government payout for any death in the 1989 pro-democracy protests. The money was labeled "hardship assistance" by authorities, who maintain that the 1989 violence stemmed from justified government actions.

—*BBC*, Beijing, China

Mass beaching

Roughly 400 dead bottlenose dolphins washed up on shore in Zanzibar, Tanzania last Friday. Local villagers rushed to bury the carcasses to prevent disease and unpleasant conditions on the pristine beaches. Marine biologists from the University of Dar es Salaam are in the process of performing autopsies on the dolphins in order to determine why they beached themselves and what they were doing so close to shore. Possible causes include SONAR bursts from U.S. Navy submarines, which may have disoriented the dolphins, or poisoning from toxic "red tides" of algae.

—*CNN*, Zanzibar, Tanzania

Crikey!

An Australian landscaper is lucky to be alive and intact this week after he was attacked by a 15-foot saltwater crocodile named Brutus. The massive croc launched himself out of his pond and stole the chainsaw the landscaper had been using to trim a tree in Brutus' pen in Corroboree Park Tavern in Australia's Northern Territory. Brutus then proceeded to destroy the chainsaw in less than an hour. While Brutus was not hurt by the chainsaw, which was still running when he grabbed it, he did lose a few teeth.

—*Reuters*, Canberra, Australia

Welcome to Bobby's World

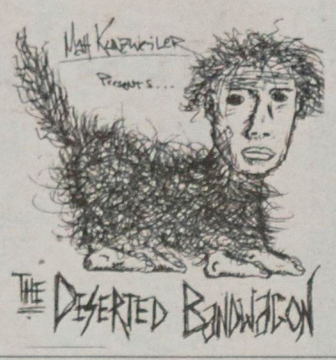
By Bobby Joe Smith
Staff Writer

Make no mistake about it, the time of the year that we all fear is upon us. Students mull over a multitude of numbers, names and notes, memorizing and often agonizing over the mortifying list of things they need know. You can feel the very air in the atmosphere tighten as even the hippies of Battell Beach hanging in hemp hammocks and huffing hookahs hit the books so as to not be caught unprepared. Libraries are packed, notebooks are stacked and nerves are wracked because one little slip-up could ruin an entire semester.

I'm not talking about finals here. I'm talking about the no-holds-barred, BannerWeb battle royal that turns roommate against roommate, classmate against classmate, boyfriend against girlfriend (or any combination of the two), freshmen against senior and you against an army of desperate calculator-wielding academicians that would sell your grandmother crack if it somehow could benefit them and their devious schemes. This isn't a game! This is BannerWeb baby, the epitome of cyber-warfare. This is the same bi-annual BannerWeb bombardment that forces students to get up at the crack of dawn, only to leave them hours later staring at a computer screen as blank as their academic futures, futilely attempting to access a server two clicks away from crashing harder than Roseanne at a roller-rink.

For those of you fortunate enough never to have experienced the dark side of BannerWeb, let me explain how it feels to be screwed by a process that somehow succeeds in being more arbitrary, devastating and iniquitous than Room Draw. It's a slow and painful death, in which the sufferer is haunted by visions of a semester in purgatory with Professor Monotone studying such "modern marvels" as the brick. It is a lingering feeling of gloom only accentuated by the shouts of joy from the Neanderthal down the hall that got the last seat in the class you wanted. By the time the IT guys finally resuscitates the shell shocked server, all you can do is add yourself to a waiting list that would shame a D.M.V., even though deep down inside you know Tiny Tim has a better chance of surviving a Chuck Norris round-house kick to the temple than you have of ever setting foot inside that classroom. It may seem unjust, but that's just the way it is, and it doesn't look as if anything will be changing soon. So what can we do about it? After complaining to everyone within earshot and mollifying your sadness with a pack of Double Stuffed Oreos, not much.

On a positive note, however, we can make selecting courses and constructing back-up plans a lot easier if people start rating professors and classes on Middkid.com. We have to fill out teacher evaluations every semester anyways, so we might as well fill some out that others can actually see. The evaluations are only a couple of multiple-choice questions with an optional spot for written comments. If everyone on campus took the time to answer a few yes or no questions, there would be a complete and informative data source on all the courses and professors at Middlebury.



BY MATT KUNZWEILER

It's the end of the spring semester and things are getting weird.

For the past two years my column has been devoted to exposing the absurdities in campus life, but recently it feels as though the absurdities are no longer attempting to conceal themselves and are starting to run amok. So maybe my column is obsolete, which is fine by me. Mission accomplished. Now I can slack off and write a shoddy, slapped-together column with segues that barely even make sense.

First off: Does Eli Berman think he's Jesus Christ? Honestly, Eli, we know that by using duct tape to crucify yourself to the side of Mead Chapel you're just begging for the comparison. The red hair helps, but you're fooling no one.

And it seems like Middlebury's favorite student politico isn't the only one audaciously comparing himself to something in the outside world of religious importance: ADP recently renamed itself the Delta House, which is a very tragically lame mistake. Of course the name refers to the infamous film "Animal House." Really though, I can't think of any place on campus more dissimilar to Animal House: ADP is not filled with wacky social outcasts; the members do not live in a dilapidated building (their residence is as immaculate as any uninspired phase 2 ski chalet from the mid 90s); they are not anti-establishment (see their Beirut table with the Republican elephant painted on it); and their annual toga party is merely a dull reenactment of a cliché.

So ADP idolizes Animal House (which is adorable), and, similarly, the new liquor inspector idolizes Robocop (equally adorable) – proven by the fact that he cannot follow in his predecessors' footsteps by interpreting the Law – but man, can he ever apply it like a ruthless machine…even at the detriment to the very people the Law is supposed to protect.

Of course, the liquor inspector probably has good intentions and I recognize this. The same could be said for the various committees and organizations on campus that think student awareness and open-mindedness will be improved by tying condoms to phallic-shaped chicken wire constructions and spray-painting racial slurs onto plywood. With that logic, maybe during testicle awareness week they can go around kicking people between the legs.

But as far as shameless attention-getting tactics go, who could beat that grammatically incorrect "hooray-for-Stanton" insertion into *The Campus* a few weeks back? It sure got attention, didn't it? But in the process it brought the printed word to new, never-before-seen lows. If that's guerilla journalism, then MySpace blogging represents a fine literary art. But what annoys me most of all about that idiotic insertion was the submitter's willingness to violate the sanctity of the Opinions Section, which is Middlebury College's exclusive forum for campus-wide dialogue, where students, faculty and staff alike are able to air their poignant complaints, half-baked criticisms and miscellanea on a level playing field. It is *The Campus*' rumpus room, and we like it that way. Besides, the section's editors are even kind enough to clean up some of the submission's syntactical shortcomings (an editing process from which the "illegal" insertion would have benefited greatly).

Anyway, my point is this: Listen to the Dark Horse Candidates. They rock pretty hard.

Third annual Relay jumps in earnings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thomas emphasized that donations are still being accepted as the final figure approaches its $200,000 target.

This year's Relay featured 949 registered walkers, with many unregistered participants turning out to help push the final attendance figure well over 1,200, according to an estimate offered by Thomas and other event organizers.

Each registered team organized walking shifts to maintain a continuous march. College students, faculty, staff and members of the local community joined forces to form 78 registered teams, many of which featured curious names inspired by this year's theme, "Relay 2006, Saving the World From Cancer."

Friday night's opening ceremonies featured moving speeches by Governor Jim Douglas and College President Ronald D. Liebowitz, and a number of other addresses by local community members who wished to share their experiences as patients and caregivers. They, along with other survivors and caregivers, were then invited to participate in a special "Luminaria Ceremony" featuring the College's Chamber Singers and String Quartet.

The ceremony was designed to honor the struggle of cancer victims and survivors and to promote awareness, according to Thomas. Luminaria, or candles placed in small paper bags, were purchased for $5 donations and used to light the track in honor of cancer victims and survivors. Additional luminaria were strategically placed on the nearby stadium bleachers to spell out the candle-lit word "HOPE."

"Along with fundraising, the goal of Relay for Life is to provide a supportive environment and a healing service for anyone touched by cancer," said Relay For Life 2006 Co-Chair Lee Corbett '07 in an official College press release last week. "The relay gives us the opportunity to remember those who have lost the battle against cancer, give hope to those still fighting and honor those who have survived."

Despite its potentially daunting time frame, Relay For Life featured a host of live entertainment options throughout the night, including performances by Riddim, Generation Today/Vermont (GT/VT) Breakers, and a capella groups the Mamajamas and the Miscords. Some of the night's more engaging components included numerous themed laps around the field — the "Silent Lap," the "Crazy Hat Lap" and the "Wedding Lap," among others — as well as a Hoola Hoop contest and two "Kids Hour" sessions orchestrated by Relay Youth Liaison Committee Chair Danielle Levine '07. A few fortunate participants won day passes for the Snow Bowl and Ralph Myhre Golf Course and a chocolate flower bouquet.

Albert Bitici

Organizers lined the relay track with luminaries, illuminated bags naming cancer victims.

Top individual fundraisers included Kristen Deane '06 ($5,085), Maura Casey '07 ($3,995) and Assistant Professor of Biology Jeremy Ward ($3,810), who also walked the third-highest number of laps (59).

"Pirates of the Diamond," led by Casey and Ward, raised $10,305 to earn second place team honors. "Life Sciences" ran a close third with $10,191, and "The Ova Chicks," comprised mainly of College staffers and headed by CAOS/Academic Department Coordinator Renee Brown, raised an astounding $13,958.

Speaking to Relay's success, Thomas said, "All of the participants involved — the volunteers, the Committee members, the speakers and the donors — came together for a common goal: helping to cure cancer. An event like this gives so much hope that a cure is in sight and that the lives of those currently battling the disease will improve. The money raised at this event was tremendous. It is encouraging to realize that a small school in the middle of Vermont can aid in the battle against one of the world's most common enemies and make such a huge difference in the process."

'Meet the Press' talks climate

By Erin Lackey
STAFF WRITER

On May 4, at 4:30 PM, Andrew Revkin will present a lecture on media coverage of climate change in McCardell Bicentennial Hall. This discussion, entitled "The Daily Planet: Why the Media Stumble When Covering Climate Change and Other 21st century Environmental Issues," is part of the "Meet the Press" series sponsored by the Middlebury College English Department and Atwater Commons.

Revkin is a science and environment reporter for *The New York Times*. He has been writing about environmental issues for 20 years and has an immense knowledge of these topics. Author Sue Halpern describes Revkin as "one of few journalists that has been plugging away at this issue for years. He knows the science and knows the issues." Since his awareness about climate change is so extensive, members of Middlebury's academic community appear very excited to hear his thoughts on the media's coverage of climate change.

In the lecture, Revkin will speak about the challenges facing environmental reporting and may present some possible solutions. Some of the topics in addition to climate change planned for discussion will include oil dependency and protection of endangered species. Said Halpern, "According to Revkin, news is typically described as an immediate happening that is relevant to the lives or concerns of a media outlet's readers or viewers. Global warming is the antithesis of that, with its impact spread out over time and geography and laden with uncertainty."

The "Meet the Press" series decided to have Revkin speak because environmental stories are so prominent at Middlebury. About a month ago, Elizabeth Colbert spoke about similar issues, but was unable to answer some questions asked of her because they did not apply to her field. In addition, many students were disturbed by the fact that a global warming publicity trip to Montreal in January wasn't covered by the press. Colbert could not answer their questions about why this occurred since she is not a daily reporter. However Revkin, a journalist, should know why and will be able to explain how the press decides which stories to run and how to frame them.

Revkin has worked at *The New York Times* since 1995. He has also written for *Discover Magazine*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The New Yorker* and *Science Digest*. He has written several books, one of which is due later this month: "The North Pole Was Here: Puzzles and Perils at the Top of the World." The book will feature his arctic expedition for *The New York Times* and describe the history of Arctic exploration, climate modeling and the future of the North Pole. His other book, "The Burning Season," was published in 2004 and investigated the murder of a prominent environmental activist in Brazil.

The "Meet the Press" series was created several years ago and selects four or five speakers each year to visit campus. Unlike many lecture series, there is much more room for dialogue between audience members and speakers in "Meet the Press." Speakers typically lecture for 20 minutes and then take questions from attendees for roughly twice that time. This style is very attractive because it allows for a more participatory feeling. As a result of this more interactive lecture style, "Meet the Press" has seen some of the best attendance among the campus' various lecture series.

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www.websudoku.com. Answers on pg. 19

Lecturer skeptical of town plan for bridge

Says history, finances pose obstacles to transportation development

By Ian Schmertzler
Staff Writer

Owen Gutfreund, a Barnard professor and author of "20th Century Sprawl," delivered a lecture last Thursday entitled "Bridges and Bypasses: A historical perspective on a century of traffic and town planning in Middlebury." During the talk, Gutfreund used the history of automotive transport and national trends to explain why the construction of new bridges in Middlebury any time soon would be unlikely.

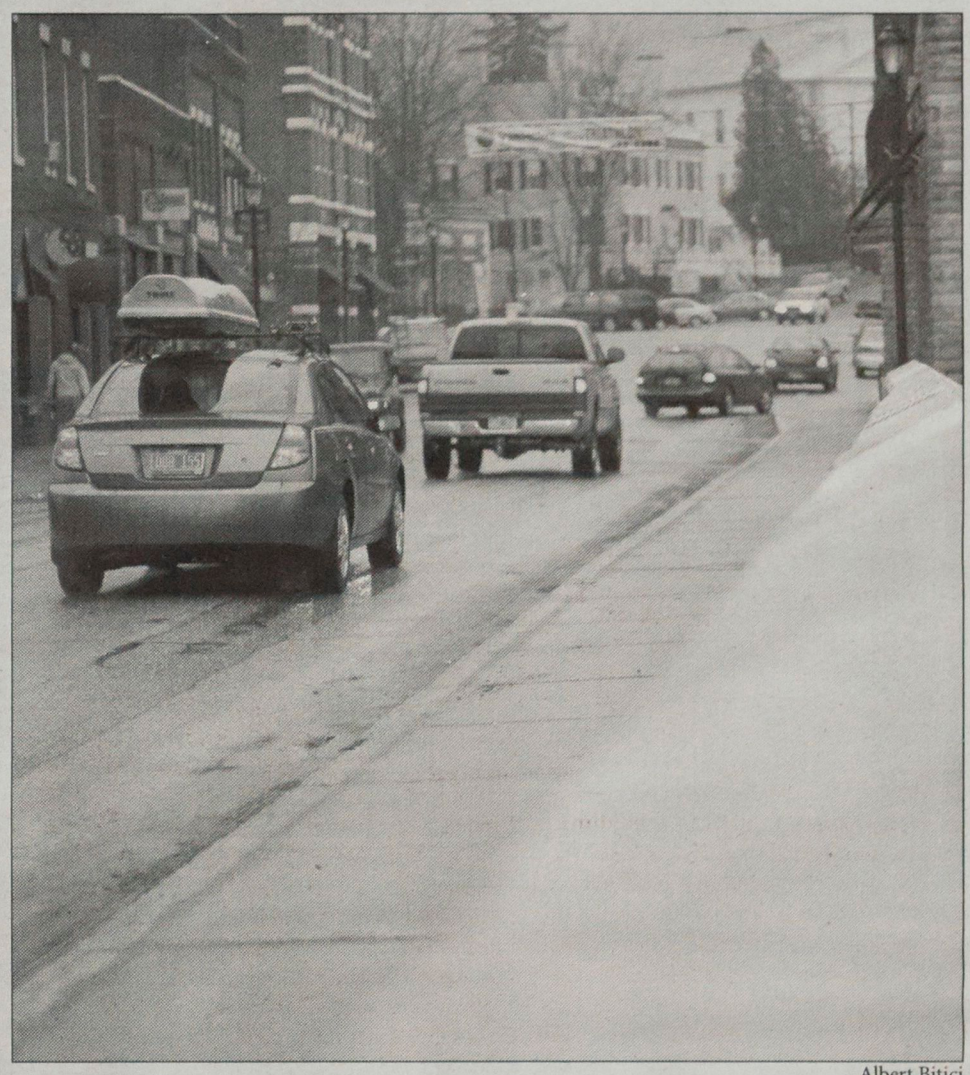
Over the course of the hour-long lecture, Gutfreund discussed the history of automotive transportation, focusing on what he called "corporate lobbying masquerading as consumer advocacy." However, Gutfreund was careful to say repeatedly that "this isn't a conspiracy, this is a story of good business… the more roads there were, the more cars would be sold. It was that simple."

Gutfreund argued that a rural emphasis on road spending led to roads being built where no one had previously lived; this, in turn, led to sprawl. As an example, Gutfreund provided the story of George Wallace, a man who moved to and then created the first commercial development outside of Denver thanks to new highways. "Federal and state highway spending consistently provided plenty of money to build the roads between the cities, but did not provide money for road development within the cities," he said. "The result was cities faced the stark choice of either paying for roads to connect to the highways, or slowly dying."

Gutfreund posited that small local governments were practically powerless to shape their transit situations due to a lack of federal support for road development within town limits. The case study the professor provided was the town of Middlebury. "Eighty years ago, traffic congestion made it on the meeting agenda in Middlebury; since then, it hasn't left," he said. With Vermont having to provide funds in conjunction with the federal government for all construction, Gutfreund explained how the state was gradually forced to push more of the financial burden down on the towns, which were usually unable to raise the funds.

It was at this juncture that Gutfreund tied in the current bridge proposal. While reading the town minutes for Middlebury, Gutfreund had discovered that "the 'new' bridge proposal had been a 'new' proposal since 1955." Gutfreund provided instance after instance in which the state was prepared to pay for the construction of the bridge only to be met with protest by dissenting members of the town. "One of the problems with all of these plans was that none of the plans had enough support," Gutfreund explained, leading politicians in Montpelier to direct their meager funding only to those towns with greater concensus.

Gutfreund closed by saying, "So here we are, 50 years later, and the State has said 'go plan it.' This happens every decade, but I doubt anything will happen." Most of the students appeared to agree, though some adults clearly did not like what they heard. In answer to a town member's question regarding what he viewed as a solution for the country, the professor replied was, "In the 1920s cities didn't work: they were too dense, they bred crime and there was immense poverty. Back then it made sense to get people to spread out. It doesn't any more. We are too spread out, we need density."



Albert Bitici

While the town of Middlebury currently hopes to build a second bridge, Professor Gutfreund said obstacles like finances and patterns in transportation development stand in the way.

do you have a story idea?

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Middlebury jumps to hip-hop jams

Triple threat J5, Naughty by Nature and Rahzel rock Kenyon

By Alex Gilman
Staff Writer

Saturday, April 29, the Nelson Arena played home to the largest spring concert in Middlebury history, as hip-hop titans Naughty By Nature, Jurassic 5 (J5) and Rahzel put on a show that impressed both Middlebury students and the hip-hop loving Middlebury community at large. Sponsored by the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB), this show proved to be an unprecedented uniting of such large-name acts, and did not disappoint.

Even before the show began, entering concertgoers were treated to a warm up set from a local DJ, who made the best of a largely thankless job by stringing together an excellent set of danceable hip-hop to build the energy and excitement of the completely sober crowd.

At around 8:30, as the last of the stragglers made their way into the arena, the lights dropped, and the audience gasped as the man known only as Rahzel — who has made an impressive name for himself even after his untimely departure from The Roots — made his way to the stage. He launched into an entertainment act that combined many of his original songs with his almost inhuman ability to beatbox and duplicate popular songs. At one point, he thrilled the crowd with his popular rendition of the late Aaliyah's "If Your Girl Only Knew," to which he both adds original words and simultaneously imitates the melody and drumbeat. "It was probably the most amazing thing I've ever seen in my wild life," gushed James Petsoulakis '06.

As the opener, Rahzel played a shortened set. After a slight intermission the show resumed with an act that may not technically have been the headliner, but was nevertheless perhaps even more anticipated — the immortal Naughty By Nature. Consisting of MC's Treach and Vinnie, this Illtown, NJ, group is one of the biggest acts in hip-hop history, boasting multiple Grammy Awards and platinum albums. With such songs as "O.P.P." and "Ghetto Bastard," this storied group did not disappoint, taking the audience — many of whom grew up in the group's most popular era — on a musical tour back to the early 90s.

While on stage, Naughty by Nature showcased the talent for performance that used to sell out even the most massive arenas in the world. Treach, who is rumored to receive injections of vitamin B12, stalked the stage shirtless, pumping up the crowd with his infectious enthusiasm. Chi Nguyen '06, who described NBN as "absolutely amazing when I was in 3rd grade," was pleased to find that Naughty by Nature still had it. "Treach is a beast and the show was outrageous. He took us all to hip-hop Town." While Naughty By Nature performed, Jurassic 5 — notoriously avid fans of classic hip-hop — watched from the audience with everyone else. When the time came, however, J5 took the stage and amazed from beginning to end.

Albert Bitici

Students and members of the Middlebury community enthusuastically join hip-hop legend Naughty by Nature on the Kenyon Arena stage last Saturday night to rock out to the group's immortal urban anthem "O.P.P."

Albert Bitici

MCs Chali 2na and Mark 7even of Jurassic 5 rap and rhyme to the over 2000 people who filled Kenyon Arena for MCAB's spring concert. Jurassic 5 headlined the event, pleasing the audience with their old-school hip-hop revival.

This headlining act broke out onto the L.A. hip-hop scene in 1993 and since has stuck to an old-school vibe reminiscent of a time when hip-hop was all about the music and having a good time. Therefore, it's no surprise that one of J5's strongest attributes comes in the form of its charisma. A six-piece act with DJ's Numark and Cut Chemist setting the stage for MCs Akil, Zaakir, Mark 7even and Chali 2na, J5 is unique in its dynamic tag-team delivery. This style translates particularly well to the live setting, seen as the group fed off of the enthusiastic crowd to deliver a unique concert experience. Led by the popular and charismatic Chali 2na, the group performed many of their biggest hits, including "Jayou," "If You Only Knew," "Quality Control" and "Concrete Schoolyard." The towering 2na brought the crowd to life every time he called out "Middlebury!", even acknowledging the women's basketball team who responded by dancing on stage.

At the end of the show, J5 thanked the exhausted crowd, acknowledging Middlebury's reputation as a great college for live music. The fans responded with booming applause and praise for the experience. "I'm from a small village in Connecticut, and we don't get much in the way of live music," said a sweaty Mackenzie Gowdey-Backus '06. "To see a show like this is a dream come true." Matthew Powers '06 was a bit more direct. "That [expletive deleted] was dope," he said. Regardless of how you'd choose to phrase it, this was a tremendous show that will be long remembered by all in attendance.

The tables are turning

Upcoming highlights keep the campus hopping after the hip-hop

RIDDIM NATION
SATURDAY, MAY 6
MCCULLOUGH FLOOR
Riddim World Dance Troupe takes the stage for their performance, "Past to Present."

SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL
FRIDAY MAY 12
BATTELL BEACH
Grace Potter takes the lead with a line-up of several Vermont and college bands.

SEPOMANA
FRIDAY MAY 12
MCCULLOUGH FLOOR
Featurings: The Sixfifteens
Tal M. Kline
The Books

Spotlight on...Daniel Houghton

Daniel Houghton '06 is a studio art major from Brunswick, Maine. At Middlebury, Houghton is the first studio art major to use video art as his senior project. Entitled "Everything Glowed" (look out for the beautiful, enigmatic ads that are speckling campus), Houghton's video is self-described as "all the things that you would have to photograph if you didn't take at least one snapshot of someone before they left." Complete with original footage, music and narration, "Everything Glowed" debuts May 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Dana Auditorium.

***The Middlebury Campus:* Why video art?**

DH: For me, video because it's the coolest. It moves me the most and it has an emotional quality to it. There's a quiet beauty to the plastic arts like painting and sculpture that's very grown up and wonderful and precious, but I like things that make my heart race a little bit — video does that. And people are still mesmerized by it — its like a hot medium I guess. Its also oversaturated, every young boy and girl wants to be a video artist, so its kinda lame I want to be one too — its kinda like jumping on the bandwagon. You get to use computers and it's an okay reason to use computers. You don't have to be that kid who uses computers and nobody likes anymore because they're antisocial. And its way easier than painting — your hands can be crass and coarse and ill-refined. It moves, it's quick, it's very narrative. I like stories and trying to understand them better. It's also everywhere. People know how to look at it. A lot of people engage with video all the time in a way that they don't engage with painting. Painting takes a little more action on the viewer's part. There's a TV everywhere. For me, it makes it exciting that so many people are experts at watching it. They're usually pretty limited experts, but a lot of people know what they like. As soon as people start to see a video, they're drawn to it. Say you walk into a gallery — if there's a screen on, even if its scrolling text, people go and watch that. It's like a fire, you just get mesmerized.

Angela Evancie

***TC:* What do you consider your main inspirations?**

DH: Hollywood. Mournful, sad, self-indulgent rock and roll music. Some of my friends who are active in the arts. I think my peers are the most inspirational and the most threatening because they're the ones who are the most like me. It's easy to look at great work and to distance yourself from it, you don't have to live up to the expectations of great work, but as soon as your friends start doing good work it sets a precedent.

***MC:* Do you have a specific motivation behind your art?**

DH: Oh yes. I want to be famous, so I'd like to convey that sad desire of mine because it won't happen. So I'm trying to capture the tragedy of my own life. I like going outside with the video camera because then it's a simple way to bring some of it back with me. It's not the only way by any means. I like that it makes me watch things closer. Motivation...like to save the world? Or to show that beauty still exists? Or to prove that love happens all the time? I don't know, I'm so cynical sometimes.

Motivation...one of them definitely is to prove that video can be pretty and imperfect. I've had debates with people about film — people love film like they love God or Mackintosh computers. As we were watching it ["Everything Glowed"] and I was trying to figure out why people love film so much. I was thinking maybe it's that we're hung up in...oh boy...this is me deciding what society is up to...well, maybe a love of film has something to do with this fascination with technology. Film is the most beautiful representation of technology we have, but video isn't as beautiful, so it doesn't affirm this need of ours to be technologically superior. You can get at the same ideas through video that you can through film, it just doesn't have the prestige of the machine age and the early plastic age when it was still okay to use plastic materials and cellulite and to use up silver nitrate by the gallon. I feel like that stuff is way uncool, but people still love film.

So I want to prove that video doesn't have to be ugly and that it doesn't have to excuse itself. Hopefully there's nothing in here that has to excuse itself by saying I'm sorry that I'm not better. I'm sorry that it wasn't shot on film. I'm sorry that there wasn't more money behind this and that the actors weren't better and that this wasn't shot on Middlebury's campus. I hope that there's no apologizing. That it can be perfect in its own terms. So my motivation was to achieve perfection and to show it to the world I have achieved that perfection. [laughs]

It's an opportunity. You have an amount of time — I have 42 minutes. in a screening (I don't want to do it as an installation where you can just walk by it), it's a chance to try as hard as you can to take care of all the people who are watching. You can take care of them in any number of ways. You can take care of people by showing them tough love and awful imagery and gruesome events and abusive parents, because maybe that's something that will help the audience. It's kinda lame to think you're helping people but...its just a chance to get people from when they sit in their seats to the point when they leave. That scares the heck out of me to be responsible for that amount of time for that many people. Even if only 10 people come that's suddenly 10 hours of human time that I'm consuming jealously for myself. That forces you to grow up a little bit, or at least try to, because you don't want to waste that time.

***MC:* What has this movie meant to you? How has it made you grow?**

DH: It's made me grow a little bit. I'd like to say it's made me grow a lot because that would make me feel good about the process I had just undergone — my senior year launch pad into the real world beyond this false world that we are living in every day. How has it made me grow? The only reason I would dare say that I've grown some is that it was more frightening than anything else I've done here. It's not the most frightening thing I've done, but aspects of it were terrifying. Creative work is supposed to be personal. If you spend a whole year working on your project and it's done and it hasn't amounted to anything, it's a daunting threat to the ego. If what you can amass is nothing, then it paints a bleak portrait of what you're made of.

Oh, and I learned a couple of important things, I learned how to take critique and that I wasn't able to do that for half of the year. I would get very defensive and very protective of what I had made as if it were something untouchable. If somebody was going to say something bad I didn't want to hear it. It was really rough and very emotional. So I learned to get a little distance from my work. I know what I like in the video and its okay if other people don't like that or don't see it or don't pay attention. I used to be desperate that certain things would come across, and I'm not so desperate anymore — but if they do that's great.

***MC:* What do you see as your ideal future?**

DH: I want to work under somebody. I've never done that in creative work. I feel like it would be very frustrating because I've gotten used to thinking that I know what I'm doing and that I'm making important decisions and changes. I think the best thing I can do is find someone who inspires me and work near them. Even doing simple things — work doesn't have to be deciding important things about a film that someone else is working on, it could just be feeding them oreos slowing and delicately or sweeping out their Jacuzzi or cleaning out their refrigerator. I also really want to dive into the commercial world for sure because there's so much work going on there and it seems so...well I feel kinda naughty doing it. Like that's not where the art is, that's where they steal from artists. I just need to be patient and not be in a hurry and to try to let things happen.

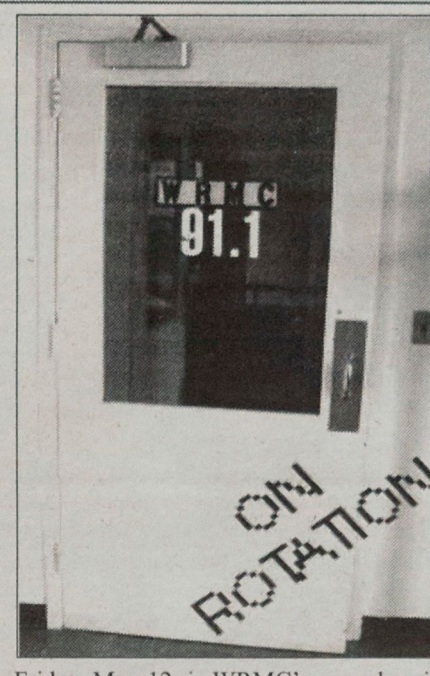
***MC:* What is your definition of art?**

DH: My definition will come short of art. [laughs] It's very private. It usually takes place in a very small place, in a very small area. A river is artful because it goes around bends in a very pretty way. So you set up a few boundaries, you make a few initial choices about what you're trying to achieve, and then you're given one opportunity, or maybe a couple, to succeed within those boundaries. It's like when you grow up a little bit, like when you set yourself up to fail and then you succeed. That's when an artful accomplishment has been made. This is very warm...these are all very warm thoughts about art. You explore the dark side...no, I'm not going to say that. Art's usually not your own doing. You don't make your own art. It happens to you and you try to notice.

— Alexxa Gotthardt

WRMC 91.1 FM
On Rotation

BY BENJAMIN GOLZE



Friday, May 12, is WRMC's annual spring concert-fest, Sepomana. In seeming anticipation of the event, I received this letter about its origins from a crazy-man/former-WRMC-ringleader Pauls Toutonghi '98, and I decided to run it:

We came up with the word "sepomana" in a Monday-afternoon meeting in February of 1997. My friend, Jeremy Dean, was the one who coined the phrase. We'd been brainstorming — trying to name WRMC's new concert series. After about fifteen minutes of rejected ideas, Jeremy suddenly turned to everyone and said: "Sepomana." It was a little serendipitous. So, "sepomana" is WRMC's word. We made it. we are wordsmiths. Rock n' roll.

The intention with Sepomana was simple: A May concert that would provide an alternative to the annual MCAB major-label love-fest. I mean, how many times can you sit in the Field House and listen to Wyclef Jean?

For the first Sepomana, I booked some on-campus bands, long since dissipated into the ether of the Middlebury College past: Waterpocket Fold, Bujicle, Dorm Damage (for whom I briefly sang). I also booked three independent Burlington bands: Starlight Conspiracy (beautiful melodic rock), Zola Turn (all-female raw rock), and The Fags. The Fags were possibly my favorite band, ever, period.

Their lead singer, Eugene, was an emaciated Ukrainian immigrant whose accent sounded like it was coming from the bottom of a Soviet bathtub. They played a combo of polka and Stooges-style 70s metal, with big, soaring, crunchy power chords and ruminations on drinking and French existentialism. Think: The best Eastern European metal you've ever heard. Then make it twice as raw. Bingo. The bass drum was a picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Every time the drummer hit the pedal, the heart beat. Pure awesomeness.

The plan was simple. Start the concert outside. Serve Guiness and Bass black-and-tans, get people drunk, then move the concert inside. And that's pretty much how it worked.

The concert went well. All the acts were introduced by a local Elvis impersonator who we hired for fifty bucks and all the beer he could drink. We did have illegal kegs backstage, for the bands. I got busted removing the last of these kegs at two AM. But then — two days later — my friends helped me break back into security's keg closet and steal the keg back. But that's a totally different story.

We went several thousand dollars over budget. Oops. Charlotte Chase was not happy with WRMC and Pauls Toutonghi, no. But it was worth it. Now, 2006 is the tenth-annual Sepomana. This makes me feel terrifyingly old. But happy. It's rare that something you start endures on a college campus — something which is built around the idea of impermanence (at least in the student body). But that's what makes WRMC unique, I think, and valuable.

All the best from Brooklyn,
Pauls Toutonghi

Here's a quick run-down of the Sepomana 2006 acts, for consumption by the unwashed masses:

The Sixfifteens: This band out of Saratoga Springs, NY, plays a tortured pop-punk that is rife with hooks. For reference, check out a full live set they just posted online at www.thesixfifteens.com.

Tal M. Kline: The dominant half of the pioneering online electronica duo Tranceden, the Israeli Kline is now known for his "jazzy breakbeats, collaged house, and drum'n'bass tunes."

The Books: The New York City-based duo has crafted a unique style out of a huge archive of recorded sound files, mixing it with electronic beats and guitars to create a sound that bridges the gap between electronica and rock/pop. The songs are fascinating and immediately grabbing. Their best work appears on the 2005 album "Lost and Safe," though the earlier two are a sure bet as well. Playing with the Books will be their friend/similar artist Greg Davis.

'One Flea Spare' stings with dark drama

By Ellen Grafton
Staff Writer

In a Zoo season already brimming with sinister shows, "One Flea Spare" brought its own particular brand of dark drama to the Hepburn Zoo May. 27-29. Written by Naomi Wallace and directed by Evan Dumouchel '06.5, it tells the story of four people trapped in a house during the 1665 plague in England. The action that follows explores issues of class, power and the supernatural.

The show opens with a monologue by Morse (Julia Proctor '06.5), a 12-year-old girl. Her monologue seems to be addressing an unseen interrogator, to whom she relates the horrors of the plague. The scene then transitions to Darcy (Meghan Nesmith '06) and William Snelgrave (Michael Ratpojanakul '06) who have been confined to their house while the plague wreaks havoc on London. Bunce, (MacLeod Andrews '07.5) a sailor seeking refuge from the plague, breaks into the Snelgraves' house. Morse also sneaks in, claiming to be the daughter of the aristocratic Braithwaites. The Snelgraves are horrified to find two possibly contaminated strangers in their house, but before they can throw them out, Kabe (John Rayburn '06.5), the street guard, discovers the invasion and sentences the whole house to 28 more days of quarantine.

Confined to two rooms of the house, the secrets of the four inmates come to light. Mrs. Snelgrave was burned badly in a fire soon after her wedding, and her husband refuses to touch her scarred skin. Bunce nurses a never-healing wound from a mining accident of his youth and relays to the Snelgraves bits of his amoral and erotic life at sea. Morse may or may not be who she claims.

In such close contact, the divisions between the classes dissolve. Bunce rebels against his role as servant, Darcy sleeps with Bunce and Kabe becomes a raving prophet of the apocalypse. By the end of the show Darcy and William Snellgrave are dead, Bunce escapes and Morse witnesses the revival of the city.

The performances by Nesmith and Proctor were well wrought. Once again corseted, Nesmith effectively played Darcy's sexual and spiritual repression with a light touch. She exposed the tension beneath Darcy's ladylike demeanor through a subtle catch in her voice or the habitual twisting of her handkerchief. By imbuing Darcy with timidity in the first act, Nesmith gave herself room to evolve into the assertive Darcy of the second act. Her decisiveness in taking Bunce as a lover and insisting on suicide played as personal release rather than moral weakness. As Morse, Proctor mastered what is arguably the most difficult role in the show. Her physicality and vocals fluctuated well with the changes in her character. Proctor swung easily from unearthly creepiness to endearing playfulness. Believability in age was a stretch for both actresses: Darcy is supposed to be 53 and Morse 12. Comments of Darcy as an "old woman" frequently clashed with Nesmith's young face and voice.

Ratpojanakul also occasionally played Snelgrave too young. His aristocratic, mincing movements were a nice manifestation of Snelgrave's obsession with class division but his dramatic vocal choices in the first act were too strong to allow much growth in the second act. The strength of his rages stayed at the same level of self-righteous anger throughout the play, when they should have moved from class snobbery to utter desperation.

As Bunce, Andrews delivered a fascinating and driven performance. Andrews' understated choices created a Bunce that is capable of reading the desires of those around him and benefiting accordingly. Rayburn also delivered a consistently entertaining performance as the violent, shifty Kabe.

The set, designed by Aaron Gensler '08, brought the audience close with a protruding platform stage down the length of the Zoo. The raised wooden platform of the floor added an authentic sound detail to the show as the floor creaked and groaned with the actors' footsteps. The combination of real and computerized sound in the showbuckets slamming, skirts rustling, canes rapping, the overwhelming buzz of flies brought the audience into the claustrophobic ambiance of the play's plague-ridden world. Brooke Smith's '07 lighting design, though functional, lacked the imaginative element needed for Wallace's script. Especially during Morse's monologues, the lighting needed to change more drastically to support the unnatural, poetic bent of the material.

Wallace's dark poeticism is not easy material to pull off, but the cast of Dumouchel's production performed it well. Although "One Flea Spare" was not flawless, the strong performances and attention to detail in set and sound made it an accomplished and entertaining night of theater.

Albert Bitici

Julia Protor '06.5 plays Morse, the caustic, coy servant girl who infiltrates the Snelgrave's quarantined home during the Great Plague of London in 1665. Here, Morse dreamily reflects on the quiet, eerie beauty of death.

Albert Bitici

A high-society couple with secrets, the Snelgraves (Michael Ratpojanakul '06 and Meghan Nesmith '06) reprimand the masquerading Morse (Julia Protor '06.5) when she enters their home with Bunce (MacLeod Andrews ' 07.5).

'The Wedding Dress' marries guilt and desire

By Sara Jameson
Staff Writer

Whirling into the surrealist world of dreams and memory, Middlebury's production of Nelson Rodrigues's "The Wedding Dress" or"*Vestido de Noiva*", which opens today and runs through Saturday, strives to create a theatrical journey that will take the audience on a suspenseful ride into the mind of mortally injured young woman.

The play is about a middle-class young wife who has just been mortally wounded in a car accident. As she hovers at the brink of life in a coma, her mind snatches at memories, both real and imagined, to try to piece together the events that led to her accident. Influenced by Freud, as well as by Expressionism and Surrealism, Rodrigues's play "follows the logic of dreams," explains the director, Assistant Professor of Theatre and Middlebury College alumnus Claudio Medeiros '90. "[The woman's] consciousness is split between memory, reality and hallucination," said Medeiros, and it is through this "unusual journey" and "fragmented narrative" that "the plot builds to unravel the mystery around her death."

The play was written by Nelson Rodrigues in 1943. Rodrigues, who spent most of his life in Rio de Janeiro, was born into a family of journalists, whose influence, as well as his own experience as a journalistic writer, permeates his dramatic works both in style and in subject.

The production of his second play, "The Wedding Dress," launched his career as a playwright and propelled Brazilian theater into modernity. However, at the time he was writing, Rodrigues's fascination with the conflict between sexual desire and bourgeois taboos earned him the reputation of a pervert, especially as many of his characters were morally culpable. It was not until the 1980s, when the political climate of Brazil began to diverge from the severe repression of the late 1960s and early 1970s, that his then-believed impudent works began to garner more respect and gradually earned him the title of one of the most important Brazilian playwrights.

The play was originally directed by Polish émigré Zbigniew Ziembinski, whose exposure to early 20th-century avant garde aesthetics was a perfect match for Rodrigues's content. The work's divisive and episodic structure, nonlinear plot and cinematic quality took audiences by storm and forever revolutionized Brazilian theater.

Being the director of only the second production of this play in the United Sates, Medeiros intends to enforce the expressionist sensibility that permeates the work. "My artistic goal as the director," said Medeiros, "is mainly a question of styles. I want to draw on the ideas of expressionism, melodrama and film-noir to solve the issues of the play, all the while, not allowing the audience to become lost in the fragmentation of the piece...That was the main challenge — solving the play, both visually and theatrically, in this dream-scape while trying to give the audience clear narrative hooks so they will not get lost."

The cast was also challenged in trying to reach an understanding with each of their characters. Medeiros described that each character, aside from the woman, is a part of her fragmented imagination and so it was difficult for the actors to negotiate between the fictional basis of their characters and interpreting them with their own perspectives. "Usually characters exist in their *own* life," Medeiros said, "And so the actors were forced to be creative in dissecting their characters." One of the actors, Katherine Peters '06, commented, "One of the most interesting parts of the whole process has been working through the complexities of this play. It's been a challenging and exciting experience."

And so, having come through an extraordinarily creative and imaginative process, "The Wedding Dress" opens this weekend and, no doubt, will surprise and excite all those who are present.

"The show is a very stylistic piece that pushes boundaries," said Peters. "It doesn't have any overarching moral message — it is about guilt and desire, and what happens when people follow urges that are so often repressed before we are even conscious of them. It's no cautionary tale either though, instead it challenges sexual mores and social expectations."

With a surrealist blend of "reality, memory and hallucination," the play will reveal what so many have called radical and revolutionary. "The play will be an unusual experience for the audience," said Medeiros. But it will be a valuable experience, because of the radical ideas of the playwright and the importance of the work for Brazilian theater.

'Dance works' moves to eclectic beat

Albert Bitici

Stepping and strutting suavely across stage, Edwin "Pop" Semidy '06 performs a self-choreographed piece as part of "Dance Works," a night of collaborative dance which debuted last Friday night. Semidy's culturally-driven, upbeat multimedia senior work combined with the senior work of Colin Penley '06 and the efforts of numerous students and faculty to create a night of eclectic, dynamic dance.

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of 5/4 - 5/11

04

THE WEDDING DRESS
Thursday and Friday 8 p.m. and Saturday 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Wright Theatre
Tickets $5/$4/$3
Directed by Claudio Medeiros '90, "The Wedding Dress" (*"Vestido de Noiva"*) explores the tortured thoughts, dreams and hallucinations of a young wife as she wavers on the brink of death after a horrific auto accident. In "The Wedding Dress" highly expressionist sensibility, strong Freudian ties and talented troupe of actors combine to create a performance part-film noir, part dream and all dazzling suspense thriller.

05

PERFORMING IMPROVISATION: MUSIC, DANCE, LIGHT
Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre
Tickets $5/$4/$3
This Friday and Saturday student musicians, dancers and lighting designers come together in a night of exciting improvisation. With the motto "Improvisation is composition," the instruction of Michael Chorney, Penny Campbell and Jennifer Ponder combine with the students' individual styles to create a night of spontaneous creative partnership.

05

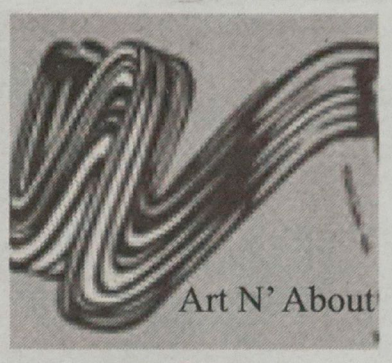
TRACKING
Thursday and Saturday at 10:30 p.m. and Friday at 8 and 10:30 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Room 232
Jake Jeppson's '06 senior independent project "Tracking" debuts this Thursday in the Center for the Arts. Written and performed by Jeppson, this one-man show explores what it means to grow up "special" and asks the question: do our disabilities define us?

06

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE ORCHESTRA
8 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall
Under the direction of Conductor College Orchestra Troy Peters, The Middlebury College Orchestra performs its annual spring concert this Saturday. The performance will feature pianist Andrew Throdahl '09, the winner of the 2006 Middlebury College Concerto Competition as well as a score of other talented student musicians.

07

TENESSEE SOUTHERN
2 p.m. in Dana Auditorium
This staged reading of a new play by Visiting Lecturer in Theatre Dana Yeaton documents four Division 1 football players — three black and one white —as they try to rescue their careers when a black professor accuses them of academic fraud. Visiting artist Jaye Austin Williams directs a cast which combines the talents of professional actors from Vermont and New York with Middlebury College students.



WITH JOYCE MAN

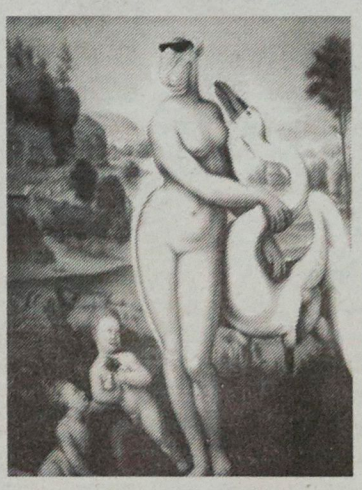
Leave it to a Chinese person to do it: artistic outsourcing. This is exactly what one Shanghai artist, Zhou Tiehai is going for. The concept is simple: Zhou thinks up the ideas, then his minions, who are expensive and well-trained artists in their own right, carry out his every whim. His portfolio, if you can call it that, consists of over-sized images of Joe camel, that quintessential cigarette packet cartoon, who is superimposed onto semi-fantastical, classical European paintings. Joe Camel as Venus? You got it. Joe Camel in period army get-up? Sure.

And now for that age-old question: is it authentic art? Here is a guy who poses in front of "his" artwork like Jesus, arms spread out, for the *New York Times*. And quite literally, that's all he has to do and he'll have full lordship over the results. The buyers don't seem to mind that the author isn't really the author, and neither do the critics. Zhou's works go for $100,000 and have been featured at the Venice Biennale. Well, what can I say? Go Zhou Camel.

Here's another case closer to home: Kaavya Viswanathan, Harvard sophomore cum dubious author of the current chic-lit novel under fire, "How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild and Got a Life." Her work of fiction has been simultaneously accused of plagiarizing Sophie Kinsella, Megan McCafferty and — the sin of all sins — Salman Rushdie. But beyond all the intellectual property hoo-ha, what is happening is not the regretful unraveling of a young, aspiring author. After all, one can barely imagine the esteem that can grow out of badly-titled chic-lit. No, the fate coming before Viswanathan is much more brilliant and, I would argue, much more artistic — she has become famous. And, in the tough world of struggling artists, that is the stepping stone to the holy grail — notoriety. Has anyone seen her press photos? That's right. Ms. Viswanathan is smiling.

Zhou and Viswanathan are an ocean apart, but they seem to be part of the same trend. Jeff Koons was able to shock the critics without lifting a single finger, but Zhou Camel and Ms. Chic-Lit have taken it to another, more troubling level. The Arts, more than any other industry, is one where the fame of the author can do many more wonders for the worth of the work than the art itself. As a result, the artist will pursue fine fame before fine art. That, actually, is exactly what Zhou tries to criticize in his parodies. According to him, contemporary Chinese artists have shed their ancient calligraphic skills and no longer know how to paint. But they do know how to sell.

These artists aren't just detaching from the old requisites of fine art – they have actually detached completely from their art with a hands-off approach, and they've received fame by doing it. The creative enterprise, it seems, has become just simply an enterprise.



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FOR RATE SHEETS

Midd kicks it into high gear

By Chris Dowd
Staff Writer

In a couple of close calls, both the men's and women's track and field teams finished third this past weekend in the NESCAC Championships, hosted by Bowdoin. Williams won both meets, and Tufts barely edged out the Panthers to take second place. Coach Martin Beatty called the weekend and the third place finishes "a couple of great performances to finish a very successful year in the NESCAC."

Last year's Middlebury teams also finished third in the NESCAC, but after the loss of a deep and talented senior class, chances of repeating that performance seemed dismal. Senior captain Kevin Bright noted, "after losing a lot of key contributors, we really needed a great deal of people to step up and repeat last year's finish." The Panthers did in fact step up, and not only repeated last year's placing, but came exceptionally close to improving on it.

On the men's side, Bright and fellow senior Kristoph Becker scored in a combined 10 events to lead the Panthers. Bright won both the 400 and the 400 hurdles, and Becker took home the javelin and placed third in the high jump. The two all-Americans refused to be denied in their last chance to compete with the entire Middlebury team. While individual competition will continue to follow for each, Bright noted that not much compares to competing with the team; "NESCAC's are by far the most exciting meet to run at just because every event, whether it is running, jumping or throwing, contributes something positive to the team that is bigger than yourself." Both Bright and Kristoph embodied this notion and jumpstarted the Panthers across the board.

Following the seniors' fervor and success, a slew of Panthers rose to the occasion to support the team cause. Senior and fellow all-American Steve Atkinson finished right behind Becker in the javelin, and junior Will McDonough earned an impressive second place finish in the 3000 steeplechase race. And in what was perhaps the gutsiest performance of the day, first-year Ben Fowler scored in two straight 400 events in a span of eight minutes.

Junior Bobby Marcoux, sophomore Jimmy Butcher and senior Matt Engler also contributed with third place finishes in the discus, 5000 meter and 110 hurdles, respectively, all earning All-NESCAC honors.

On the women's side, junior Mary Fredrickson led the charge with a third straight NESCAC championship win in the javelin. She joined fellow juniors Beth Butler and Andrea Giddings in qualifying for nationals and making all-NESCAC. Butler took second in the 800, and Giddings set a Middlebury school record with a time of 11:11 in her fourth place finish in the steeplechase, while she also took second in the 5000. Senior captain Whitney Creed rounded out an impressive day for the Middlebury upperclassmen by taking third in the hammer and also making all-NESCAC.

But it was the workings of a surprising first-year class that allowed the Panthers to finish so strongly as a team. Emer Feighery won the pole vault competition clearing 10 ft., and Jen Katz seized two second-place finishes in both the 100 and 200. Right behind her, and rounding out the fresh young performances, was Emily Coles, taking third in the 100.

So after a successful team finish, the Panthers will now focus individually on doing well in nationals and New Englands. With team goals and fun behind them, Bright noted that focus now shifts "on trying to concentrate one weekend at a time in order to try and perform the best at the end of the month." The Panthers put together quite a team effort all season, and it would not be a surprise to see a lot of these individuals go on and succeed at the national level.

Albert Bitici

The Middlebury men's and women's track and field teams finished third at last weekend's NESCAC Championship, with D-III New England's up next.

Courtesy

The Sailing Club mixes leisure sailing on Lake Champlain with weekend competitions against colleges throughout the New England region.

Smooth sailing for Panther club

Continued from page 28

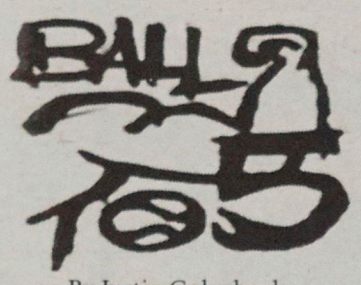
offset the first place finish in the "A" division by sailors Donegan and Adam Volmilere '09 and so Middlebury finished second, three points behind UVM.

The spring ended on a high note as Middlebury out-sailed by a "water-slide" (an aqua version of the traditional "land-slide") in the season finale this past weekend. Middlebury finished with 29 points and clobbered Williams (59 points) and Amherst (50 points). Sasha Garfield '09.5 crewed for Donegan in the "A" division — the boat had four first place and two second place finishes. first-year Max Junda skippered the other boat with fellow first-year Adam Volwiler as crew. Although he had almost no sailing experience, Volwiler's boat collected mostly second place finishes to contribute to a Middlebury win.

The spring success, according to tri-commodore Donegan, was "everyone's dedication and enthusiasm." She went on to say, "Because [the club] has done so well this spring, we plan to arrange a more competitive schedule for the fall, including more trophy regattas with highly ranked schools."

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week:	*Zamir Ahmed*	*Tom McCann*	*Ryan W. Reese*
Will the men's lacrosse team win the 2006 NESCAC Championship?	YES The Panthers have never lost in the NESCAC postseason. I don't see them starting this year.	YES You know what they say — Taxes, Death and Middlebury men's lacrosse NESCAC championships.	YES The Panthers have finally found their form and will beat Wesleyan for their sixth straight title.
Will the women's tennis team win the NCAA regional this weekend at Williams?	YES Midd and Williams have split a pair of matches this spring. I think the Panthers will shine this time.	YES The team has the perfect blend of talent and experience. Williams will make it hard, but we'll bring it home.	NO They are an incredible Panther squad, but the Ephs have been just too much to handle this season.
Who will win the women's lacrosse semifinal between Amherst and Bowdoin?	BOWDOIN Amherst has the better record, but the Polar Bears won the April 1 meeting between the teams.	BOWDOIN The Polar Bears are one of the strongest lacrosse teams around, and while it'll be close, they'll pull through.	AMHERST They have a longer tradition of excellence and will perform well under pressure this weekend.
All-Time Record:	**20 - 25 (.444)**	**28 - 17 (.622)**	**22 - 23 (.489)**



By Justin Golenbock

Everyone saw it coming. Next year, business as usual.

In the latest "twist" in the Duke lacrosse team scandal, a Duke University panel convened to investigate the criminal culture among their own student-athletes and recommended that the suspended lacrosse team be allowed to resume play next season. "Although the pattern of misconduct in recent years by the lacrosse team is alarming, the evidence reviewed ... does not warrant suspension of the sport," the seven-person committee wrote up in their report.

The aftermath from a rape allegation made by a 27-year-old black student from cross-town North Carolina Central University, a predominantly black school in Durham, against three white lacrosse players from the wealthy and prestigious Duke University, continues to be colossal. Sophomores Reade Seligmann and Collin Finnerty have been indicted by a grand jury and are set to stand trial on charges of rape, kidnapping and sexual assault. Meanwhile, tensions between the two school bodies have continued to grow through on-campus demonstrations at Duke and throughout Durham.

I do not mean to turn this into a trial by media. The facts of the case are for a jury to decide, though it is disturbing that the defense's case seems to be built upon attempts to circumvent the rape shield law and attack the victim's purported sexual history through hearsay allegations in the media.

But what message does it send that Duke has so neatly solved its problem with the behavior of its student-athletes through merely "strict monitoring...of problems related to alcohol?" And I'm not talking about just Reade Seligmann and Collin Finnerty.

Fifteen of the current 47 members on the lacrosse team have been charged with misdemeanor crimes in Durham and Orange Counties, 41 lacrosse players since 1999; only Reade Seligmann and Collin Finnerty have been suspended. Finnerty was just recently ordered by a grand jury to stand trial in Washington, D.C. for an assault charge from last year, yet he was allowed to keep playing until the sick and disgustingly racist and violent e-mail he wrote to teammates, relating his desire to "murder...and skin" both dancers, was found by prosecutors.

It is obvious that this type of sustained and significant criminal record is not the norm for groups of college students who like to party hard. The fact that 41 of the 47 current team members were at this party when the rape allegedly occurred, where racist invective was spewed and broomsticks were threatened to be used in disturbingly abusive ways, that *all* of these players have stayed silent and loyally refused to give testimony in any way related to that evening...well...they can't go to jail for any of that. But to lose only a single season of play? Take with a cup a salt the ubiquitous advertising from the great and prestigious Duke University that lays a claim to churning out superior people.

Panthers swing through final meets

By Jake Cohen
Staff Writer

As the 2006 spring season comes to a close, the men's and women's golf teams have once again found success. Two weekends ago, the men's squad ran into trouble at Skidmore, only to rebound at Williams the following week. The ladies continued their remarkable season, winning both of their last two tournaments at Amherst and Williams. But this historic season, certainly the best in the program's history, concluded with a punishing blow from the NCAA Tournament Selection Committee.

The women's team started the spring season in Jekyll Island, Ga. by finishing seventh of 21 teams spread across the nation. In their second and third of three tournaments, victory seemed inevitable as the Panthers hit with pinpoint accuracy and determination. At Amherst, Sally Hartman '06 and Captain Heather Gallagher '07 both shot 82 to take third overall, just two shots behind the lead. Karen Levin '08 and first-year sensation Julie Ellenberger followed suit with an 87 to capture 13th place, as the team captured the tournament.

On April 30, the team was invited to Williams College to compete in the Northeast District Shootout. Once again, triumph seemed destined. Ellenberger led the team with a remarkable 74 on the first day, a new course record. Her 77 on the second day gave her the margin needed to win her first, and likely not last, tournament for the Panthers. Gallagher and Levin finished with 171 and 172, respectively, giving Middlebury three top-10 finishes in the shootout.

One would think that two consecutive victories this spring season and two consecutive victories to end the 2005 fall season would separate a team from its competitors. Traditionally, the NCAA Selection Committee extends an invitation for the national competition to the two best teams in each region. As for the northeast region, Methodist University, an annual contender, received a bid. The final bid was the real prize for the winner of the Northeast Shootout, with regional juggernaughts Wellesley and Middlebury duking it out. Despite the Panther victory, the women were denied a bid.

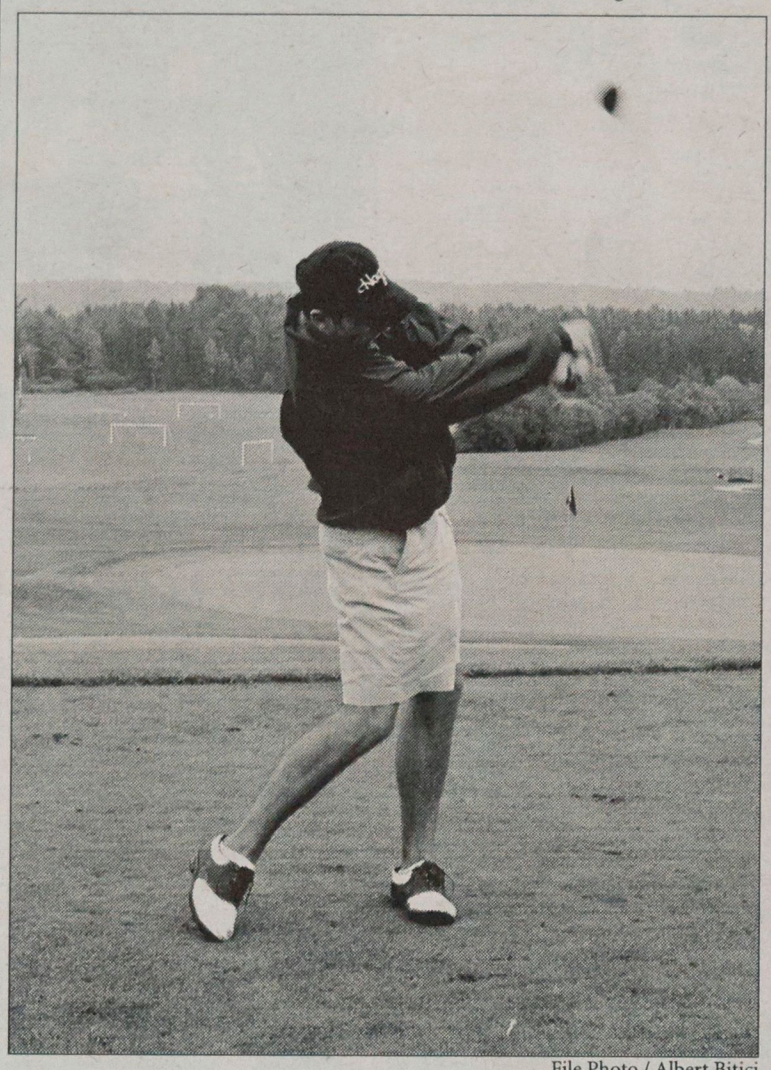
According to the Selection Committee, a "team" consists of at least five players. Therefore, the women's team did not qualify since they were only competed with four players. But competing with only four players is a remarkable feat — only the top four scores of each team are counted in a tournament — Middlebury proved dominant with literally no room for error. "To find out that we had earned the pick but were being denied an invitation based on a technicality was disheartening to say the least," said Hartman, who will not be rewarded in her final year of strong competition. "We felt it was an even greater accomplishment to have essentially qualified for the championship based on our skill level and track record. But unfortunately, the rule won't be overturned this year."

The men's team was spared the frustration of technicalities this year. Rather, the frustration of inconsistent play from talented individuals plagued the outcome of the season. Performance at the Williams Invitation shed light on the future of the men's Panther squad. George Baumann '08 shot 74, one back from the leader, to clinch second place in the tournament. Sophomore Feb Harrison Bane shot a 79, followed by Jay Yonamine '06 (82), Michael McCormick '09 (84) and fellow sophomore Feb Jeff Patterson (88).

But only three players on the team averaged below 80 between the spring and fall seasons. Bane, Baumann and Bellmare — the links' killer Bs — have struggled to find consistency. Bane's low score was a 72 this fall, whereas his best score this spring sat at 75. Bellmare's best spring score was a 76, though the majority of his rounds were in the 80s. Baumann only shot two rounds under 80, though one was a 74.

Despite this capricious shooting, the team is optimistic for next year. "It was a tough spring for us," noted Bane. "We have our whole team returning next fall, all of whom have the talent to achieve our goals. It's a matter of grinding it out and working hard for our success."

Spring struggles aside, one thing is for sure — watch out next fall, NESCAC. Middlebury is coming with a vengeance and an unshakable determination for success.



File Photo / Albert Bitici

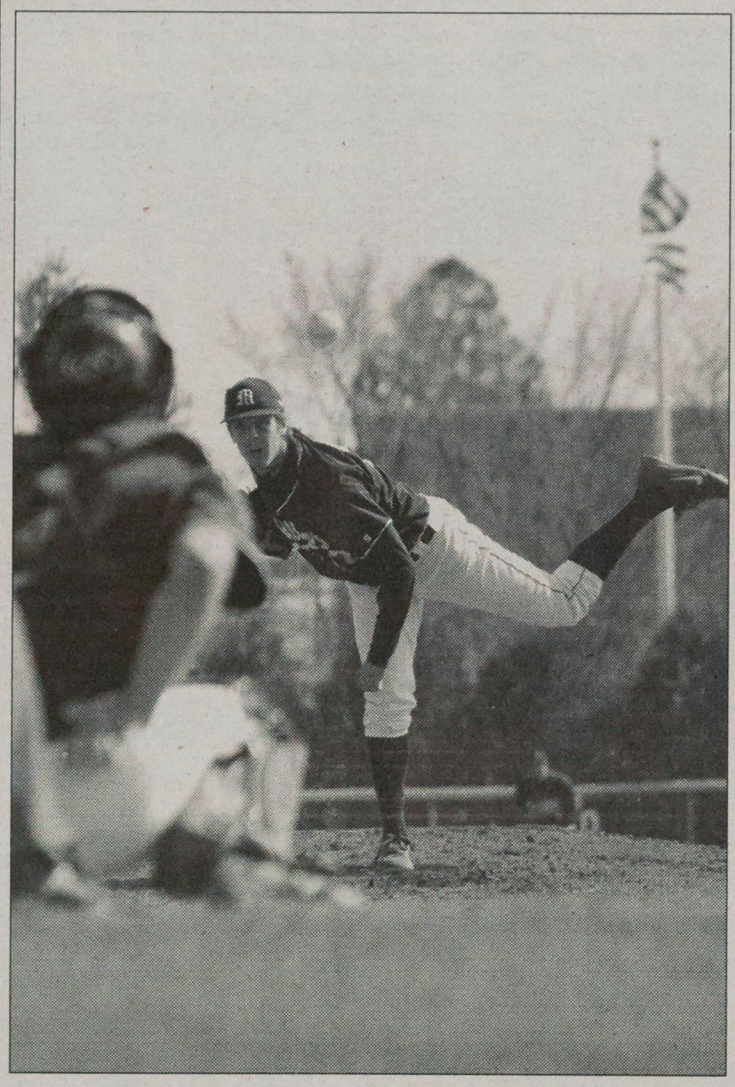
Mitch St. Peter '06 and the men's golf team took home eighth place while Julie Ellenberger '09 shot 74-77 to lead the women to the gold at Williams.

BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Staff Writer

74	Record-breaking score for Julie Ellenberger '09 on the first day of the Williams Spring Shoot-Out
2	Straight victories for the fifth ranked women's golf team after winning at Amherst and Williams
4	Number of women's golfers (one less than every other team), forcing all of their scores to count and eliminating the possibility of dropping their highest score
6-1	Score in the 3rd set of Brian Waldron's win against Williams' number one, to clinch the NESCAC tennis championship for Midd
6	Number of consecutive regular-season NESCAC titles for both the men's and women's lacrosse teams
1:11	Time remaining in the 4th quarter when Henry Sheehan '06 scored the game-winner to beat Bates by one and capture the number one seed in the NESCAC lacrosse tourney

That's Wright



File Photo/Albert Bitici

After dropping a pair to Amherst two weeks ago, the Middlebury baseball team set a school-record for season wins with a sweep of Hamilton.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Creed '06 tosses her story to *The Campus*

Creed finished third in the hammer throw at last weekend's NESCAC Championship.

***The Campus:* When did you start doing track and field?**

Whitney Creed: In sixth grade, in middle school.

***TC:* Why did you start?**

WC: Because my gym teacher thought that I looked strong and I could do shot put.

***TC:* Did you play any other sports growing up?**

WC: I'd played soccer ever since kindergarten and I actually grew up racing — ski racing as well.

***TC:* Why did you choose track and field?**

WC: Um, it sort of stuck with me just because I happened to be better at it than all the other sports I was doing.

***TC:* What drew you to Middlebury?**

WC: Definitely the campus. Since I was racing we used to race at the Middlebury Snow Bowl and so one day I came over to the campus after with my mom and I was just blown away. It was so gorgeous. And I knew that I would have a little bit of trouble getting in academically but, when it came down, track gave me that extra push and I knew this was the place to be.

Courtesy

***TC:* What do you feel are some of your responsibilities as a team captain?**

WC: Um, I guess just to see how people are doing and give my other teammates the support they need, maybe. If they need like a pep talk before they go or whatever... I don't know. Just basic, basic stuff.

***TC:* Is there a difference personality-wise between track athletes and field athletes?**

WC: Uh, I think field athletes get a more [laughs] brutish stereotype but I guess there is because we don't really concentrate on what we eat or anything like that. Um, you'll definitely see throwers coming up for seconds, dessert. You won't see a distance runner doing that. But I think overall what's great about the team is that we all get together, we all sort of mesh.

***TC:* Does it bother you that it is called track and field and not field and track?**

WC: [Laughs] Uh, no. I used to run so it's OK. But sometimes a lot of other schools have shirts that — like thrower shirts that say "Whatever Field and Track."

***TC:* Do you have a sports hero?**

WC: Um, I would definitely have to say Picabo Street because she was awesome. And Hermann Maier too because he was able to come back after basically almost dying and losing his leg in the motorcycle accident to win the world championships.

***TC:* How is competing indoors and competing outdoors different for you?**

WC: Indoors is terrible. [Laughs] Uh, but competing indoors is harder because the meets seem longer and the implements are a little bit different. And they don't have hammer, which is my favorite event. But being outdoors is great because it's so nice out and you actually get to walk around and see all the different events going on.

***TC:* What is your favorite event to watch?**

WC: I really like watching the steeplechase actually, and the 4x4 relay at the end, that's always the best.

***TC:* What is your greatest accomplishment in college?**

WC: Um, I don't really know. I can't quite pinpoint one. I'd say doing track all four years and keeping up with all my schoolwork.

***TC:* What is your biggest regret?**

WC: Not going abroad.

***TC:* Is there a reason why you didn't go abroad?**

WC: I would have had to go abroad in the fall and I really wanted to go to South Africa and my parents said no. And so I don't take a language. It just wasn't in the cards for me.

***TC:* What are your plans after graduation?**

WC: Good question. I'm taking organic chemistry at Harvard this summer, orgo one and two, but other than that I don't know. Hopefully a research job somewhere in Boston.

***TC:* What do you think of the recent doping scandal in track?**

WC: Ooo, I don't know. Sometimes they're believable but sometimes they aren't and there's just so much controversy between them with like... Usually they only get caught because they're using one of the — I don't remember what they're called — like concealing drugs or something like that, which can be as basic as like cough medicine. But I think that if someone's really good then they don't even need the drugs so it shouldn't even be in the sport anyways.

***TC:* Track and field is so individually based. How is competing on a team helpful for you?**

WC: It's great because when you throw, like to have other people come and watch you, it's just the most amazing thing. You want to do well and you wanna also like impress everyone who is watching. So it just gives you like that little extra boost to throw farther. And I love watching other people and supporting other members of the team and I think that if it was more individualized and people didn't come watch, then it would be really boring.

***TC:* What are you going to miss most about the team?**

WC: Uh, the people, definitely. I think... Especially the throwers because this year was the first year we actually had a big group of people. We had like 16 throwers so it was actually a real team. During practice we're really segregated from the rest of the team 'cause the throwing field is farther away. We don't really see the other people. But having more than three people around to watch you and help you out is really beneficial.

— Zamir Ahmed, sports editor

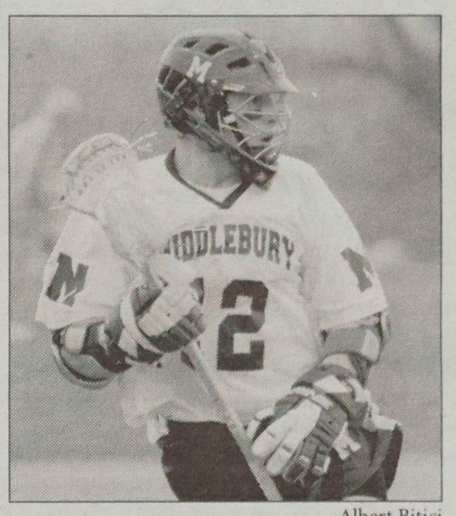
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Apr. 27	Softball	Skidmore	16-0 13-0	Middlebury dominates non-conference foes before Lyndon State game is cancelled due to rain.
Apr. 28	Baseball	Hamilton	26-2	Britton '08 strikes out 10 while offense provides 27 hits as four Panthers hit home runs.
Apr. 29	Baseball	Hamilton	6-2 13-0	Middlebury cruises again behind five more homeruns in the final game of the series.
Apr. 29	M Lacrosse	Bates	9-8	Sheehan '06 nets two including game-winner with 1:11 left in regulation.
Apr. 29	W Tennis	Williams	4-5	Panthers still likely to earn an NCAA bid despite loss in NESCAC semifinal.
Apr. 29	W Lacrosse	Amherst	11-3	Perencevich '06 and Renehan '06 up to their old tricks as they score four goals apiece.

SPORTS BRIEFS

BY RYAN W. REESE, SPORTS EDITOR

Sheehan '06 earns POTW



Albert Bitici

Senior Henry Sheehan was named the NESCAC Player of the Week this past week after he and the Panthers secured two important conference wins.

Sheehan was instrumental in Middlebury's wins against both Williams and Bates. The Newport, R.I. native tallied a goal of his own while helping his teammates score on five other occasions. Later in the week, Sheehan netted two strikes against the Bearcats. The senior sent home the game-winning goal with only 1:11 left in regulation to wrap up a successful week for Panther lacrosse.

Middlebury (10-3) has now won six consecutive games and is looking to continue this streak of success as the NESCAC playoffs get under way this coming weekend. The Panthers are slated to face the Jumbos of Tufts University on Saturday, May 6 at noon. This semifinal game will be played at Youngman Field and promises to be an exciting matchup of solid squads. This season's previous encounter saw Middlebury snatch an impressive 12-4 home victory from the Jumbos.

Habitat set for Saturday's 5K race

The Addison County chapter of Habitat for Humanity will sponsor a 5K race this coming Saturday on the Middlebury women's cross country trail. Habitat for Humanity is a volunteer organization that builds and provides housing for low income families across the country. The Addison County chapter has been very active recently and is looking to fundraise for future housing projects in the area.

According to an all-campus e-mail sent out on Tuesday, participants in the 5K fundraising event may "run, walk, skip, cartwheel or three-legged race with a friend" through the course on their respective ways to the finish line. In order to participate, each person will need to donate a five dollar entry fee on the morning of the race. There is no pre-registration necessary as volunteers will be on hand beginning at 9:15 a.m. at the athletic fields in order to organize the start of the race and collect donations.

The race will begin at 10 a.m. and there will be great prizes from some of the best local restaurants going to the fastest times. The event will be held on the section of the cross country trail that encircles the golf course. For those who are not familiar with the trail, signs will be posted on the morning of the race in order to direct participants through the course.

The organizers of the event are still looking for members of the College community who are willing to volunteer during the set-up, registration, timing and clean-up processes. Those interested can contact Lisa Gerstenberger '07 at lgersten@middlebury.edu.

Playoffs up next for Midd teams

As spring begins to heat up around Middlebury, the competition within the NESCAC follows suit. As the first week of May rolls around, several Panther teams are already focusing in on their respective conference and national tournaments. Although Middlebury has a tradition of dominance in many of these sports, there is no doubt that teams from around the NESCAC will be looking to dethrone the mighty Panthers across the board.

Both the men's and women's lacrosse teams, perennial favorites in the NESCAC, are set to host their respective tourneys this coming weekend. Both teams have won five consecutive conference titles and are poised to elevate that lofty number to seven as the men face Tufts while the women will compete with Williams in NESCAC semifinal action. Both matches will take place at noon on Saturday, May 6 on Youngman Field and Peter Kohn Turf, respectively.

When it comes to tennis, the Middlebury men's team is riding a wave of momentum after clinching the NESCAC title this past weekend against Williams. This Sunday at noon, the Panthers will host an NCAA regional, including M.I.T. and Amherst, and on Saturday will face the winner of that matchup.

On the women's side of the net, the Panthers will look to get back on track after a tough loss to Williams in the NESCAC semifinal. Middlebury will make the trip down to Williams once again this weekend in order to participate in an NCAA regional match against Wellesley. If the Panthers win this first match, they will face the winner of the Williams/Vassar match.

Unsung Hero of the Week

BRIAN WALDRON '06 (Men's Tennis)
The senior won his singles match to clinch Middlebury's third consecutive NESCAC title.

TRACK & FIELD | MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAMS FINISH THIRD AT NESCAC MEET | 25

GOLF | PANTHER SQUADS FINISH SEASON WITH SOLID PERFORMANCES | 26

GAMES TO WATCH

MEN'S TENNIS
VS. M.I.T. / AMHERST
MAY 7 | 12:00 P.M.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
VS. WILLIAMS
MAY 6 | 12:00 P.M.

campus sports

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2006

Panthers reign supreme in NESCAC tourney

4-3 victory over Williams cements third consecutive NESCAC championship

By Tory Hayes
Staff Writer

On Sunday, April 30, the Middlebury men's tennis team seized its third consecutive NESCAC championship, with the tournament culminating in a showdown that should be remembered for quite a while.

After squeaking by Amherst 4-3 on Saturday, the team was ready to face host school Williams in Sunday's championship match. Tied 3-3 heading into the last match of the day, the team looked to co-captain Brian Waldron '06 to close it out.

Men's Tennis

Saturday, April 29

Middlebury	4
Amherst	3

Sunday, April 30

Middlebury	4
Williams	3

"Brian's match was very tense — you could probably compare it to *Rocky 4*," said co-captain Ari Beilin '06, laughing. "Essentially it was a battle of physical endurance — who would cramp the most."

At number-one singles, Waldron was matched up against Dan Greenberg, Williams' top player. After Waldron took the first set 6-3, Greenberg clawed his way back to take the second, 7-5.

That is when things turned ugly, as both players started to cramp — Greenberg in his legs and Waldron in his lower legs, quads and even his hands, making it tough at points to hold his racket.

"It was ridiculous," said George Mayer '07, shaking his head. "I remember at one point Brian was on the run and had to hit a shot left-handed. He showed a lot of heart."

Both Waldron and Greenberg elected to call injury time-outs, but seeing as they were only permitted to do so once, they were forced to play the rest of the match in obvious pain.

But Waldron buckled down and gritted his way through the third and final set, pulling away with a 6-1 victory and a NESCAC championship for his team. "Brian kept running his opponent around, doing all he could," said Mayer. "He showed a lot of courage."

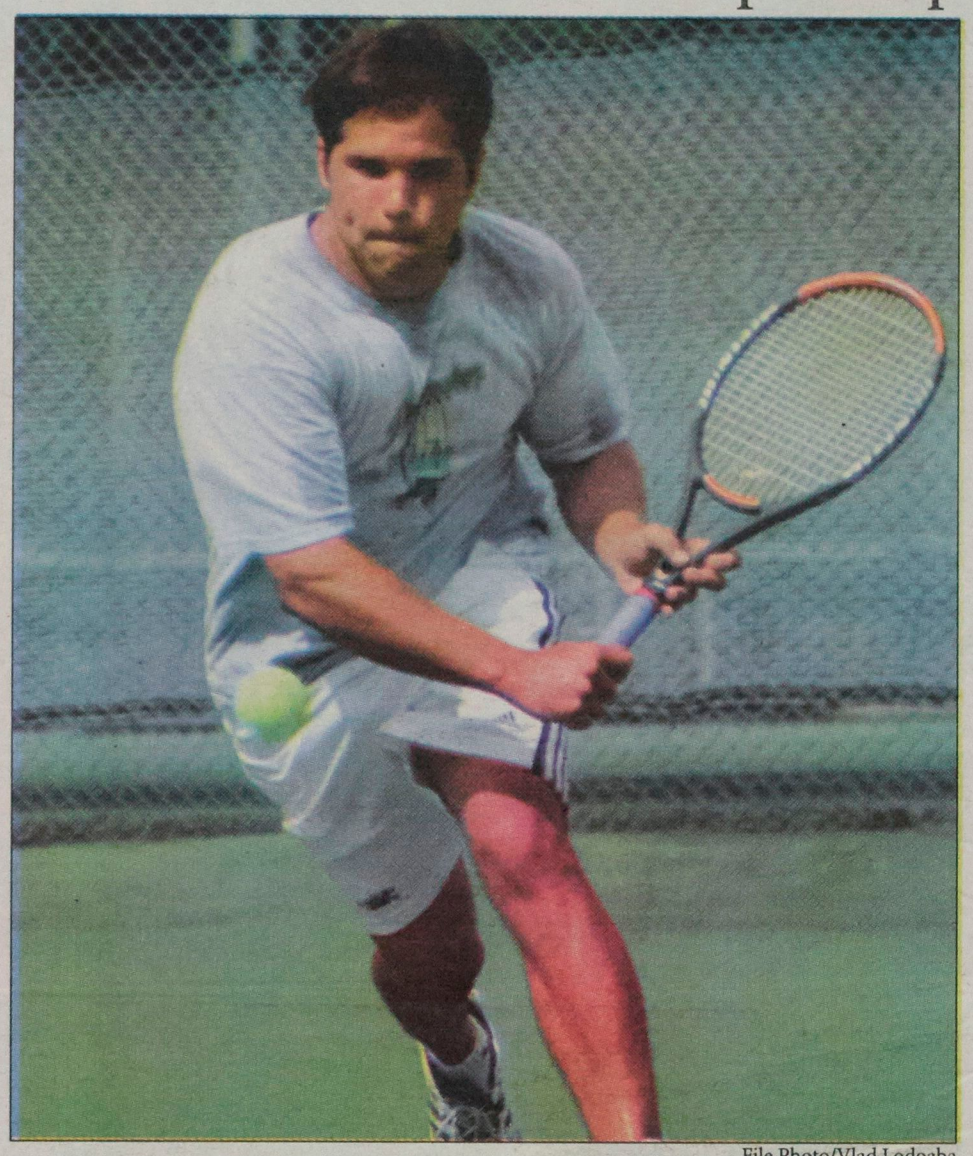
So what's next for the NESCAC champions? Perhaps another shot at the National Championship? "We're not thinking about that right now," said Beilin. "We're just trying to get ready for our next match."

That match comes this Sunday when the top-seeded Panthers will host regionals, most likely taking on Amherst for the third consecutive week, though the Lord Jeffs will first have to take on M.I.T. on Saturday in the regional semifinal. "It's going to be tough," said Mayer. "We beat them 7-0 the first time, but we barely beat them 4-3 last week. They definitely think they can beat us now, so we need to come out more prepared."

As the season wraps up, however, there is change on the horizon for this team. Senior co-captains Waldron, Beilin and Nate Edmunds will graduate at the end of the month, leaving a big hole at the top of the ladder.

But Beilin is not too worried about the team's prospects without him. "We have seven good — really good — freshmen coming in next year," he said. "But there has to be leadership at the top."

Mayer added, "We're losing three guys who are key aspects to this team and have been since freshmen year. Next year's seniors are going to need to step it up."



File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Ari Beilin '06 lost his second singles match 6-2, 6-3 to Williams but the Panthers topped the Ephs to win their third straight NESCAC crown and now head toward this weekend's regionals.

Sailing club makes waves with recent success

Courtesy

The Middlebury Sailing Club has enjoyed a successful spring, winning three out of four regattas.

By James Kerrigan
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Sailing Club competed in four regattas this spring while many more members logged countless hours of relaxed sailing on Lake Champlain.

More traditional teams typically have captains to fill leadership roles, but the Sailing Club has deemed three "commodores" as heads of the club — Hayden Thomsen '07.5, Shannon Donegan '08 (racing commodore) and Pete Wolkowski '07.

Thomsen, the joy-sailing commodore, encourages amiable, casual sailing, saying, "The sailing club is about getting out on the water and having a good time," he said. The Club separated the two sailing "genres" — leisure and competitive — to fulfill the needs of each and every member. "Whether you want to hone your racing skills, cruise Lake Champlain on a beautiful day or learn how to take the helm for the first time, we try our best to offer it all. This year we divided the team into joy sailors and racers. The idea was that it would allow the racers to really focus on their form and teamwork and allow a less intimidating environment for the beginners and joy sailors so they could get out there to enjoy themselves without interrupting the racers' practices," Thomsen explained. The result has been terrific with a successful racing season and "a lot of new faces out on the water to soak up the sun," he added.

On the racing side, the club participated in four regattas, collecting three wins and one second-place finish. In each race, one skipper and one crew sail 420s, small and maneuverable sloops about 14 feet in length. The goal of the event is to be the first boat to complete a course of buoys set in the water. Races are generally short — between 10 and 20 minutes — although some races will last closer to 45 minutes, depending on conditions.

In the first spring event of the season, the Western Series One at Amherst, Middlebury held its own in the A Division and dominated the B Division to take the overall title. After each race (in the two divisions) a boat receives points based on what place it came in (first place receives one point, second place receives two points, etc.). Scores are tallied following several heats in each division. In the A Division, Williams took control by winning all five heats. But Middlebury's B boat of Donegan and Grace Rumford '09.5 sailed beautifully and earned victories in each of its heats. In the end, Middlebury finished with 16 points, edging Williams by six points.

On April 15, Middlebury traveled to the University of Southern Maine for the Eastern Series Two — a different weekend and location, but with same results. With thick fog and winds of six to eight knots, Middlebury won the event through consistency. Both boats tallied 14 points for a team total of 28 to beat Colby by a only one point.

The following weekend, at the Western Series Two in Williams, Middlebury finished second behind the University of Vermont (UVM) in rainy conditions. On weekdays, UVM and Middlebury joined forces and practiced together strengthening each team's competitive advantage. But on the weekend, friends turned into foes (although the intensity hardly matched the Red Sox-Yankees series). The second place finish in the B division

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